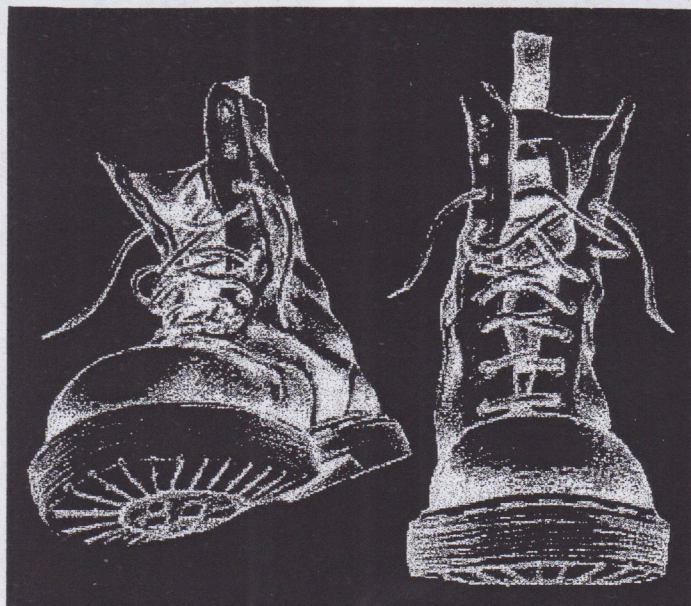


Oi! WARNING #1

✠ BONECRUSHER ✠



EDITORIAL !

Well hello folks !! ,

And welcome to the first issue of 'Oi! Warning' , i hope you like what you see and read , be sure to let me know people .. and while you're at it let me know if there's anything you wanna see in the zine !! If you are in a band , run a label , organise gigs etc .. get in touch and let me know what's going on !! That way I can make sure everything that's goin on get's in the zine..

Well , I gotta be honest and say I'm chuffed to have finally got the zine out although if I'm frank (which I'm not , I'm Sean haha , but hey whats in a name !) I've gotta say although I'm pleased with the outcome I think it could have been better !! I never done any thing like this before and am completely computer illiterate (so am I if you see some of the spelling in

this zine haha) but I'm learnin from my , many ! , mistakes so hopefully issue 2 will be a lot better !! But still , I'd appreciate it if you could let me know what you think of it , cheers !!

Well , maybe the zine needs some work on it but the line up of bands for the first issue certainly doesn't !!! Inside you'll find interviews with Argy Bargy , Bonecrusher , The Stage Bottles , Sick Of Society , Beerzone , D.R.I. , The Adolescents UK , Pobel & Gesocks , Countless Victims , Cervelli Stanki , Dekoiz , Hub City Stompers , and last but by no means least Bovver Boys

Well read and enjoy !! Look forward to seeing you all in issue 2 !!

HELLO & THANKS TO ALL OF THE FOLLOWIN

OLAF - THE STAGE BOTTLES (CHEERS FOR THE HELP MATE !) , MIKE KANEL - BONECRUSHER (HOPE TO SEE YA FOR A DRINK SOMETIME IN THE FUTURE MATE !) , JON - ARGY BARGY , DSD & THE S.O.S CREW (CHEERS FOR THE HELP BROTHER !) , CHRISTIAN - ANFIBIO RECORDS , IVANO - CERVELLI STANKI (GOOD LUCK WITH THE NEW CD MATE) , MIKE - BEERCITY RECORDS , CASPER & CINDY - GHETTO ROCK , TOM & THE BOVVER BOYS , KURT - D.R.I. (BEST WISHES TO SPIKE) , JOHN - COUNTLESS VICTIMS (OI! OI! MATE) , MARK - CAPTAIN OI! RECORDS , TONY - STEP 1 RECORDS , ALL AT SUNNY BASTARDS RECORDS , WILLI & JENNES - POBEL & GESOCKS/SCUMFUCK , IAIN - BEERZONE , MARCO - KLASSE KRIMINALE , REV - HUB CITY STOMPERS , KONRAD - DEKOIZ , HANK - G.S.S. ZINE , PHIL - INSURGENCE RECORDS , TOBI - THE HIGGINS , CHRISTOPHE - DIRTY PUNK RECORDS , TEZ & THE BOYS - THE ADOLESCENTS UK , JOSH - TKO RECORDS , REBECCA - PUNK 'N' OI! IN THE UK WEBSITE , BASTI & THE WARFARE CREW , FISH & THE SKEPTIX , CHRIS - STEELCAPPED RECORDS , JOHN IN ATLANTA , BILLY THE NEEDLE GANGSTER (FOR THE TATS) , MY SIS N BRUV IN LAW (FOR EVERYTHING!) , MICK! , CYNTHIA (FOR ALL THE HELP N ENCOURAGEMENT , LUV YA LOADS HUN) AND TO ANYONE ELSE WHOSE HELPED OUT IN ANYWAY !!! AND TO YOU FOR BUYING THE DAMNED THING !! CHEERS !!

ISSUE 2 WILL BE OUT IN SEPTEMBER AND WILL FEATURE AMONGST OTHER THINGS INTERVIEWS WITH THE OFFENDERS FROM NJ , ITALYS FINEST KLASSE KRIMINALE , GERMANY'S WARFARE , UK PUNKSTERS THE SKEPTIX , NATURAL BORN DRINKERS FROM ITALY , STUTTGARTS THE HIGGINS AND A STUTTGART SCENE SPECIAL .. PLUS MORE !!!!



THIS ISSUE IS DEDICATED TO THE MEMORY OF DESMOND DEKKER WHO SADLY PASSED AWAY RECENTLY ... YOUR MUSIC & MEMORY WILL LIVE ON GONE BUT NOT FORGOTTEN ... R.I.P.

Argy Bargy

Well Argy Bargy epitomise what it's all about for me , ever since I heard their "Drink , Drugs And Football Thugs" , this lot have been one of me fave bands , so when I decided to do a zine I just had to put Jon and the boys in the first issue , anyways i sent Jon a few questions and if you read on you'll find out what he's got to say

So Jon when did it all begin and why ?

It all began in 1992. Why ? Simple , we wanted to keep Oi! and Punk music alive and kicking.

What was the original line up ? Has it changed much over the last few years ? And whats the current line up ?

Originally , it was me (Jon) , Dustin on drums , Rev and Stu on guitars and Carl on bass. The 3 guitarists left after a while to go back to Scotland and me and Dustin carried on with Daryl Smith on guitar and our mate Mark Hatton on bass , Mark left after one of our gigs ended in a bit of a riot so we got this other fella in. He left a couple of years back , as did Dustin. Herve from Deadline played bass for us for a year or so but the current line up of Argy Bargy is me ; Daryl , Dave Thompson on drums and Dalb on bass.

Would you say the current line up is the best ?

Absolutley no question about it. We're all great pals and we have a right old laugh all the time. I think that closeness transfers to the stage as well.

How long have you been into Oi/Punk ? What got you into it ?

Personally I got into Punk/Oi! back in 1980 and before that I was listening to 2-Tong. I've always loved music and I think the reason I got into it was because at the time everyone seemed to be a Skinhead or a Punk at my school. I was a Skinhead and we all listened to the same stuff. Some of the boys older brothers were into Sham and The Rejects etc.. so we all started listening to that stuff too. I still do listen to that and I love it all as much now as I did back then.

How would you describe the bands music ?

Oi! , Street Punk , Street Rock , Real Punk ; there are so many different names these days .. its Punk Rock with the Oi! attitude at the end of the day I suppose.

Who writes the lyrics , or bulk of 'em , and where do their ideas come from ?

I write most of the lyrics and the ideas come from everyday life really. Funnily enough I'm really struggling to get our new album written which is crazy when you consider all that's going on in the world today. One flick through the paper should be enough for a triple album !!!! Daryl also writes some of the songs , he's just written two full songs actually and he writes most of the music too.

Have you got a favourite Argy bargy song ?

I've got a few actually, "We Ain't Listening", "What Gives You The Right", "Immaterial Girl" spring instantly to mind

What bands would you say have most influenced the band?

From a personal perspective, Rose Tattoo and Cock Sparrer. Those two are the reason I started a band in the first place and they remain my favourite two bands. No one has ever come close to either of them in my opinion.

What's your view on the current UK scene? And how would you say it's changed since the band first formed?

I think the UK scene is reasonably healthy to be honest. There are a lot more bands about now and the whole thing has a lot more crossover to it. Now, Oil bands play alongside Punk or Rock 'n' Roll bands which is exactly the way it should be.

What bands do you personally like that are around in the UK at the moment?

Deadline, East End Badoes, Guns On The Roof, The Masons, Dead Pets, The Booze Boys, Seum, Fatal Impact etc.. There are loads of great bands in the UK at the moment.

What do you think of the scene worldwide? Any bands out there caught your ear?

Globally the scene is great. In the US there are new bands coming through almost daily. In Europe the scene continues to thrive and hopefully it will continue to do so. There are many bands out there I like that it's almost impossible to list them all here. One band you should all look out for is Emergency from Canada. They've got an album out on 'Step One Records' and they are superb, trust me!

Where would you like to see the scene (here & abroad) go in the future?

Tricky one. If it goes mainstream will it get swallowed up by the corporates? Bad Religion, Anti-Flag etc.. seem to have kept their feet on the ground. Rancid and the Dropkicks are as loyal to their roots now as they have ever been. On the other hand, what will happen if it stays underground? Without exposure it could all end in tears.

You obviously enjoy playing gigs, has there been a stand out one? If so which one and why?

Yes, we love playing gigs. Stand out gigs? Morecambe 2002 was amazing, then two days after that we played with Rose Tattoo in London which was equally as good. We've been very lucky with our gigs actually. Most of them are really good.

What have you released to date? Any new releases in the pipeline?

We've released two full length albums "Drink, Drugs And Football Thugs", and "Songs From The Streets" and a split album with our mates from Holland, Discipline called "100% Thug Rock". We've also been on numerous compilations, videos and DVD's. We are writing the new full length album at the moment.

Have you got any merchandise available? If so where's it available from?

We've got a selection of t-shirts, CDs, Key Rings, etc.. all of which are available at the gigs.

So, what's next for Argy Bargy? Where would you like to see the band go from here?

More gigs, more releases. I don't know where it'll go from here but we're just going to plug away and enjoy it. Hopefully you lot will too.

I liked your website, easy to follow, regularly updated, whose idea was it and will you continue to update it regularly?

Our mate Lisa runs the website but the general idea was ours. I try to update it as often as possible but I'm not very good at keeping on top of it. We also have a Myspace site now so to keep up with all the news you need to go to .. www.argy-bargy.co.uk / www.myspace.com/argybargyuk

Do you think in this day and age that it's important to be on the net/have your own site?

Yes I do. Technology, like life, moves on so quickly these days and if you're not careful you'll get left behind! Everything seems to be geared up to the net these days so it makes sense to have your own site.

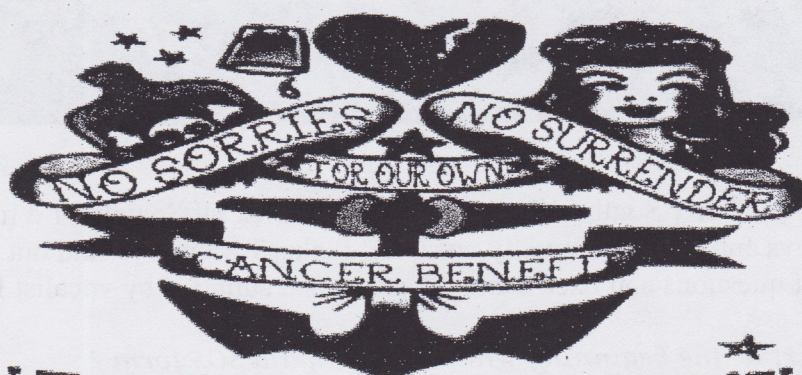
Watford seems to be having a decent season do you think that the premiership's calling? And what do you think of our chances in the world cup?

The premiership called and the Mighty Hornets answered that call !!!! We are now in the premiership and about 40 million better off so as you might imagine , I'm a very happy chappy ! As for England , who knows ? , in my heart I would love to see us win but I just can't get on with old Sven. That said , what with Watford getting promotion , this could be England's year. It's fate innit ?!!

Any messages Jon ?

Yeah , thanks very much for the interview and thanks to everyone for your support. Keep the Faith and UP THE 'ORNETS !!!

Well big cheers to Jon for the interview , nice one mate and much appreciated !! I hope all goes well for the band in the future and I'm looking forward to hearing the new album when it comes out ... and lets hope that in just over a months time we're all celebrating in the boozers as Sven n co. hold that trophy aloft !!!!! Bout fuckin time we won summat !!! And I hope watford do well in the premiership next season .. albeit grudgingly haha !!



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TUNES BOOZE N PRIZES

START AT 8PM SHARP

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DNME
IRISH CAR BOMB
HOWITZER
SICK OF SOCIETY
FIND THEM TO FIGHT THEM
LOS GREENKARDZ
MEMKAGO NT
GUAJIRO
SOCIAL FUCKS
THE REMNANTS
HIT THE MIRROR
RADAR O RILEY

18 N UP

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From the depths of the Durty South in the US of A comes Sick Of Society , I'd liked what I'd heard and read about these guys and being a naturally nosey ol' fucker I wanted to find out more about 'em .. so off went a bunch of questions and back came the answers .. supplied by vocalist DSD .. so read on

Might as well start at the beginning when and why did SOS form ?

Sick Of Society started in January '98 , originally started out in High School , wanting to just play music and contribute something to the scene , so we started playing and after taking a look around and analyzing what's going on in society we started to write about the working class , skinheads , punx , being yourself , drinking and having a good time. We wanted to get our point across by playing loud and angry music , so after many line up changes throughout the years and finding the right people the band became serious , as we progressed so has our music , lyrically and instrumentally !

Where did the name come from ? and who designed your logo ?

Our original bassist and I (Durty South Drew) , we're driving around one day and we realised how many things were going wrong with our world and the government so we came up with the name Sick Of Society and stuck with it , thru our music the name grew as did our outlook on society and life ! We have a few different logos , our boy from 'Hardway Ink'

(www.myspace.com/hardwayink) , out of print studio who originally did our website did some of our work ! And our friends as well ! It's nice when people in the scene actually contribute something like that to a band , especially working class bands coming up you know !

Whats the current line up ? Has it changed much since you began ?

The current line up has been solid for quite some time now its Durty South Drew - vocals , Hardcore Hiram - lead guitar/backup vocals , Randy Rude - bass/backup vocals , Middle Finger Matt - second guitar and Dana - percussion. Its funny you should ask has it changed much , we've been through probably 5 different drummers , a slew of bassists and a couple of guitarists. The line up has changed many , many times throughout the years so there could possibly be more , really when it comes down to this shit we do thank all them motherfuckers who helped us progress.

What bands do you listen to ? And which bands influence your sound ?

We listen to almost every kind of style of music , if you combine everyone in the band the Styles range in each person which makes us play well together , being diverse in what we Listen to helps us create good catchy music , it can range from Oi! to Hip Hop , to Old School

Hardcore , to Metal .. and everything else in between !! So we can't really sit here and say each of us listens to this or that , it just takes forever , we like to be open minded and diverse. But we do stay true to our roots no matter what , old school Hardcore , Oi! and Streetpunk , and of course there's Metal as well ! I think as far as sound goes we don't really sound like the next band , we have our own unique sound , which makes us S.O.S. , I would definatley say styles of music influence our band , some of what we just mentioned.

What kinda things do you sing about ?

We sing about whats real , we try to talk about things that are goin on in the real world , issues that effect people. We sing about the scene , we touch so many subjects , so to say we sing about one subject would be an understatement. We want to sing about real issues and concerns people have in the world , give the truth. Some subjects touch on the government , the scene , friendship/brotherhood , disgust of what the world has become , kind of like a sick hatred (not racial) that drives us to this insanity , talk about working class , we touch on everything that goes on in our lives and in yours !?

Who writes the lyrics ? Where'd they get their ideas from ?

Most of the lyrics are written by DSD , we get together and write all the time , we throw words down at practise and make songs constantly , the ideas are based on real issues and concerns and just street life , reality , you know , more of whats mentioned in the previous question so I won't repeat myself !

Have you got a personal favourite from your songs ?



All our songs our special , I do think we tend to favour our newer material only because its fresh and we get to show the world our new ideas and progression , show them we are not messing around , our words are straight from the heart , straight from the mind to you , they are not thought up to please labels or record executives. We have done what we do since day 1 , that's one thing that doesn't change , to add to this our old songs bring back memories and good times so there is no one song. Each one represents something different and something new , the scene are the people who decide which songs they favour , its all of the people who are out there at shows which create the vibe , make the show and the song !

Do you play any covers in your set ?

Yes , we play a few here and there ! We usually like to cover "Crucified" which gets the crowd going , but we've been known to cover Agnostic Front , The Bruisers , Bad Moon Rising , Sick Of It All , and a few others.

Have you played many shows to date ? Who are some of the bands you've played with ?

To be honest we couldn't begin to tell you how many we've played, its been an 8 year span of playing and not playing and writing, and playing and making more material. We've played hundreds and hundreds of shows throughout the years and continue to do so, we're just getting started! As you know we just got to play the East Coast Oi! fest .. It was an honour to play on the same stage as Murphys Law .. and other great bands. Others would be all our friends from South Florida first and foremost .. UFC (now NYC), Los Greenkardz, Lucky Scars, Find Them To Fight Them, Hellhounds, DNME .. others from out of state are 100 Demons, 25 Ta Life, I.R.A., Blood In Blood Out, The Briggs, Antiseen, Nuts & Bolts, Pride Kills, Hudson Hawks, Underdog .. its impossible to list everyone, but there are so many others ...



You just played the East Coast Oi! fest, how did that go? What'd you think of it overall? I think it went real good for us ..turn out was great, we made a lot of new friends in that town and really enjoyed the hospitality of all the people. The first day was unbelievable, I had never heard of most of the bands but I gotta say every band I saw was amazing .. Craig really threw it together good. Unfortunatley 2 of us had to go back to work (drunk!) after the first day. Whats the scene like in your town? state?

We have said this before, the scene here in South Florida isn't like anywhere else, I think it stands out on the map as unique, every scene we get to experience is different and has its ups and downs, and that goes for South Florida as well, we all have our days and our ups and downs, sometimes it dies out for a while and then its steady shows, bars start throwing shows and people hang out, I think this happens all over the United States. Some places are more welcoming than others, some have their way of doin things, but we enjoy it all you know, we live for this shit!! The people in this scene are one of a kind you don't find them anywhere else, the skinheads and punx we meet from place to place and even in our own state is crazy! Overall the scenes around the US need to stick together and unite, when unity is strong there is less error and more understanding in fighting the common enemy, whoever it might be. Here it can be violent, but that's a part of the life, yes it would be great to get along and see a true brotherhood, but in reality everyones different and people hold different values and

beliefs about different things , which makes up South Florida as a unique place .. North Florida is fun to play and the skins and punx there are more open and traditional and you don't have to worry about drama , we love playing up north its good to get away from home and hang out and play !

How do you see it going in the future ?

Play a shitload of places and see the world !

You set up the Orlando anti racist Oi! fest , how did that go ? What other bands played and any plans for anymore ?

Yea that fest was great , we had a lot of good bands , this was definatley a memorable time and a polishing point history , just everyone from all around the state hanging out , drinking , moshing , and no drama .. some of those bands were Shotgun Solution , Lucky Scars , Suburban Lockdown and Los Greenkardz. We're going to be throwing another one on August 5th , its called 'Orlando Hooligan Fest' , its at Islands Oasis , there will be 10 bands and it starts at 6pm .. Sick Of Society (South Fla) , Lucky Scars (Tally) , Hellhounds (Miami) , Los Greenkardz (Miami) Find Them To Fight Them (South Fla) , Barricade (Blackout Records , Philly) , Alleged Bricks (DC) , Common Voice (Bethlehem , P.A) , The Ivy League (Port City , NC) , The Offenders (NJ). Is racism something you take a strong stand on ?

Absolutley .. Fuck racism !! In todays society we have bigger things to worry about , we need to come together and stop worrying about whose better than who ; race , religion , and creed shouldn't classify someone , we accept everyone. And to move forward into the future we all need to learn these morals , ignorance is learned and can be unlearned , we also think that's the last thing you should be worrying about when you got a shithead in office

Do you ever get boneheads at your shows ?

Once in a while but they're usually taken care of quickly.

Are there any bands in your area ? Any we should be keeping an eye out for ?

There's a good amount of bands that are from this area , we mentioned some of the bands earlier in this interview , again some worth mentioning would be Find them To Fight Them , The Los Greenkardz , Hellhounds and DNME , these are the bands that come to mind first and also some are bands we've helped along the way and our boys !!

Have you got any records out ? Anything in the pipeline ?

We got a 5 song EP out .. also we have shirts available which you can order through paypal on our myspace page www.myspace.com/sickofsociety , we also plan on putting out 2 splits in the near future with Lucky Scars and Los Greenkardz.

What have you got planned for the future ?

Public intoxication , more music , chaos , havoc , trouble , touring , more touring , and hot punk/skin chicks who have the hots for anyone of us to have lots of sex with !!!!

Any messages ?

Keep the scene alive , support your local bands , support shows and whatever else you can. Always keep your head up and know the truth , cos the boys in blue want to bring us down , the government wants to break us apart and nazi's want to see us fall .. but we'll rise together , resist , and keep on fighting until the end , skinheads and punx , and all oppressors ready to fight all we got to say is Oi! from the Durty South !! Thanks for the interview Sean , and all our friends/bands for the support , see you at the shows , cheers !!!!

Well cheers to DSD for the interview , appreciated brother ... and best of luck with the Orlando Hooligan fest ... and good luck with any more you put on in the future mate !! .. Am looking forward to the two splits ya gonna be doin in the near future .. keep it real boys oi! oi!



BONECRUSHER



Bonecrusher are definatley one of the better bands around today , but in my opinion are kinda under-rated and Deserve a much wider audience ... If you ain't heard 'em check 'em out people !! ..you won't be disappointed !! Anyway's I sent Bonecrusher's bassist Mike a few questions... to find out more about the band and what make's 'em tick , here's his answers.....

Bonecrusher rose up out of a band called Wolfpack didn't they ?

Wolfpack was just a name of a band a couple of us were in just before we started Bonecrusher , no big deal.

What was the original line up of the band ? And whats the line up today ?

George , Raybo , Gino and Mike were the original memebers. Now it is Noah who is singing , he's played the drums for the last 11 years , George Paras still plays lead guitar , Mike Kanel still playing bass , Patrick Hall who has played rhythm guitar off and on since '96 and Brian Celi who has been playing drums for the last 3 years.

What was it like for the band back then ? And what was your local scene like ? Were there many other bands about ?

Fun as always. And the local scene is shitty as always. There's always other bands , who ? we don't know.

Your debut album "A World Of Pain" was well received wasn't it ? How'd you feel about that ? And how did you feel when your label chose to promote their more well known bands rather than you ?

Well "World Of Pain" really wasn't well received because at the time all the so called well known bands were old Orange County bands starting up again. And it really wasn't a record label we were on ,. plus our music was different than the others. Back then Hardcore was what was in and we really hadn't played in bands since the 80's so we didn't really know anything about Hardcore. Because of that the album came out the way it did.

George and myself played in bands from 1979 to 1985 in the Orange County and L.A. scenes and really didn't play much music until we started Bonecrusher in late 1991.

In the bands earlier days you had some bad times , what was it that kept you going through these ?

It wasn't that bad , we're still here haha !

The band took some time out , why was that ? And what was it like getting back to it all ?

A few of us had some personal problems and once we had them sorted out it was Rock 'n' Roll again.

Back in the ol days Bonecrusher had the talent but were criminally under-rated , why do you think that was ?

How do you feel about that looking back ?

Not too sure about the talent and not too sure about being under-rated. But we have plenty of criminals in the

band and we think it is over-rated. I don't think Orange County was ready for what we were playing. We have always done what we wanted to do. We have never been very good at following trends ... haha

What bands influenced Bonecrusher's attitude and sound ?

It's hard to say what bands , if any , we enjoy a lot of different types of music. If I had to say any it would be the sound of punk and oi! bands between the years of 1978 and 1982. Not sure about the attitudes , we have always had bad ones... it comes naturally for us haha.



Whats the scene like now where you are ? What do you think of the scene in the US as a whole ?

There are a few good bands that we play some gigs with. The scene in the US as a whole , very commercial. And we still don't stand a chance !!

What bands that are currently about in the States do you rate ? How bout the rest of the world ?

No Solution , Riot Gun , Scarred For Life These are bands based in our area that we enjoy. In the rest of the world , not sure ...we don't get around very much haha.

What have the band released to date ?

5 or 6 singles and 5 or 6 full lengths , just recently our last release was Bonecrusher 'Live At The Doll Hut' , that was recorded at our local bar. It paints a good picture of a typical gig for us.

Are there any new releases in the pipeline ?

We are excited..we are doing a split full length with the German band Oxymoron that should be out on the German label 'Knockout Records' in the next 3-6 weeks. And we have a domestic full length album with 12 tracks "Beating The Odds" , that should be out by the end of the summer 2006 on 'Class War Records'.

'Class War Records' is Bonecrusher's label.

Have you got a favourite release ? song ?

Not sure ..we like them all.

Who writes the lyrics and where do they get their idea's from ?

Most of the main lyric's are written by Noah and the band helps out with a chorus or two. We get our idea's

from the way our lives are and what we see going on around us. Sometimes there just out of spite.

From the many shows you've played have you got a favourite ?

We play a lot of good local shows but one that stands out in my mind was in 2001 when we went to Germany for the first time and we played in Cottbus. They were so excited and we were so amped to be playing somewhere besides California that we played for over 2 hours and didn't even know it because the crowd had so much energy. We played every song we knew. That was fun !



Is there a band , past or present , who you'd of loved to share the stage with ?

Yes , but our dream came true , we got to open for The UK Subs and Motorhead in 1992 and we got to play the Whiskey - A - Gogo in Los Angeles with Chelsea and the night after in Orange County in 1997. That was cool.

What would you say Bonecrusher stands for ?

Well we don't really have an angle , it is what it is. We just do what we do and if it means something to somebody then great , and if it don't...fuck 'em !

Throughout you've remained true to your roots , do you feel that's important ?

No not really. We just think everybody should keep selling out like they do and sucking dick to get a shitty song on the radio. And dressing like they're in 1977 when they were born in 1987 hahaha... Like they know what in the fuck they are talking about. Who you truly are comes out thru your music. You are either a dick sucker or a music maker.

You ever had or do you have trouble with boneheads at your shows ?

No and another no.

Any messages ?

Yeah , there is one , if you play the Bonecrusher 'Animal' record backwards at 73 rpm there is a hidden message. Let me know when you find it. It say's something about muther-fuckin rock 'n' roll...cheers !!!

Big thanks to Mike Kanel for answering the questions and good luck with the forthcoming releases.. can't wait to hear 'em !! And look forward to catching ya live n loud and having a few beers when I come over !!! cheers !!





I found out about Countless Victims after finding their web site on the net , and liking what I read I thought I'd drop 'em a line or two for an interview to find out more about 'em and what it's like in Texas ...Read and enjoy !!!

So John I know Countless Victims began life under a different name , can you tell us why you changed names and where the new name come from ?

We started out as Southern Riot. After we lost our bass player , Little E switched from rhythm guitar to bass. The songs we were coming up with took on a better sound , as we were becoming better musicians. We wrote some new songs , re-vamped some old ones and changed the name to Countless Victims to signify our 'new beginning'. The name came from a Punisher comic that Scuba was checking out one night. Thinking further on the name , I guess it could have many connotations. It reflects on how we see ourselves in relation to the rest of society .. we are crucified for being punks and skins. People outside the scene see us as racist thugs due to the age old media hype that all skins are racists. Thus , we are countless victims of that crucifixion. It's also what we call a case of beer after we've ripped through it haha !

Can you tell us how and when it all began ?

Southern Riot was formed by Scuba and Little E in 2002 , after the demise of their previous band , Rebel Disorder. I joined the band in the summer of 2003.

Whats the current line up? Have you had many changes over the years ?

Currently we're Scuba - vocals/guitar , John - drums/vocals and Little E - bass. Before I was in the band they were plagued with drummer problems , since I've been in the band we've had a revolving door of bass players. That's why Little E is on bass now. I think our sound has changed with the absence of 2 guitars , but its stronger than ever and I'm really happy with the current line up.

Had any of you been in bands before joining Countless Victims ?

Scuba and Little E were both in Rebel Disorder and I was in The Hassles , Gun Crazy and Playground Bullies.

What bands do you listen to ? And which would you say influence the bands music/attitude ?

Personally , I listen to a broad range of stuff. I like a lot of Reggae , Classic Rock , 80's H/C Punk , Metal , Thrash , Outlaw Country , Oi! from all era's and countries. Lately I've been listening to Ill Repute , Iron Maiden , Negative Approach , Steel Pulse .. I guess it all influences me. As a band I think we are directly influenced by Agnostic Front (United Blood) , Poison Idea , Last Resort , The Business etc .. Our music shows a mix of these bands influences but we don't sound or want to sound like any bands in particular.

What kinda things do you sing about ? Who writes the lyrics and where do their ideas come from ?

Our songs are a mix of social issue commentary , personal thoughts/rants , and skinhead/punk anthems. Me and Scuba generally write most of the lyrics. Our ideas mainly come from personal experiences and our opinions of everyday shit !!! The skinhead songs are obviously about how we feel , our views about ourselves and the culture we represent and are so proud of .. it's a way of life !

Whats your favourite Countless Victims song and why ?

WOW , that's a tough one , I bounce around all the time on favourite CV songs .. I guess right now it would be the newest one "Plain Truth". Musically it's a hard hitting Oi! anthem and lyrically , well , it just tells it like is (For lack of a better description .. haha). Scuba wrote this one , it kicks much ass !

Have you played many shows ? What bands have you played alongside ?

Let's see .. We've played with The Templars , Addicts , Total Chaos , FEAR , Blitz , APA , Southpaw Manners , St. Street Brawlers , Nation Of Suspects , Brass Knuckle Choir and so on and so on ..

Has there been a fave show ? If so , which one and why ?

I think I have two , FEAR and Spring Broke. FEAR are a legendary band that I had always wanted to play support for. That was a huge crowd that broke down the small barricade at the venue ! They gave us free merch for lending an amp. But the most memorable thing about it was that our bass player at the time had flaked the show. We thought we were gonna have to cancel , but our friend Chad learned the songs in the van and filled in for our set ! My other favourite show was Spring Broke in Atlanta , GA. We played with APA , The Templars and tons of other bands from across the country.



If you had the chance to play with any other band (past or present) who would it be and why ?

Can't narrow it down to one .. The Business , Anti Heros , Black Flag , Circle Jerks , Poison Idea , RKL , Gang Green Negative Approach , Cinco Dudes , S.N.O.T. , sad Pygmy and the list goes on .. All these bands fuckin rock !!

Whats the scene like in your area ? Are there any other bands ?

The scene in Houston has its ups and downs. My main concern is the division , sub scenes. Certain people only goin to certain types of shows. Theres a ' Thrash/HC/Punk' sect , and an 'all ages Punk' sect and an 'old folks' crowd. I just wish all these people would go to ALL the shows and not just certain bands or only large touring shows .. The Pyschobilly sect seems to have died down a lot , but those people come out to Punk shows too. We are THE ONLY SKINHEAD BAND in our town. Our sound is a mix of Oi! and HC/Punk so we appeal to a mix of sub scenes. Its still hard to get people out of their bars and out to a show though .. seems like the older you get the more you wanna just sit at the bar and drink .. hahaha !! I'm 33 years young and still go to shows , play shows and stay active in the community .. its more important to me now than ever .. There are some other bands worth mentioning .. Poor Dumb Bastards , Los De Verdad , Reason Of Insanity , The Quarantines , Lost City Souls , Vatos Latos , El Dismadre , Luxurious Panthers , Hamanicide , Race Against Time ...

What about Texas as a whole ?

Basically there are 5 or 6 cities with their own scenes and personalities. There are tons of bands coming outta these places all the time. San Antonio , Dallas , Houston , Corpus Christi , Austin , El Paso , Laredo .. all have thriving scenes .. Texas is and always has been a mecca of Punk Rock .. Lone Star Style !!

Any bands that you rate that we should be looking out for ?

Yeah .. COUNTLESS VICTIMS !!!!!!!!!!!

And whats your opinion on the US scene as a whole ? How do you see it going in the future ?

Well myspace.com has made it possible to network with people and bands all around the country and the world ... I think the US underground Punk and Oi! scene is alive and well and will keep growing stronger !

Have the band released anything ? Any plans to release anything ?

We have a few DIY CD EP's floating around , we're working on recording a new one that will far surpass any of the previous ones .. It'll be called 'Plain Truth' and it's gonna be killer !!

Where would you like to see the band go from here ?

The band is my therapy , if I didn't have it I would implode .. I see us playing local and hopefully some more out of town gigs .. I would love to see a 7" or 10" EP on vinyl ..

Top 10 ?

How about a top 5 instead ?!! ... {1} (.)(& Beer . {2} Fried Chicken. {3} Star Wars. {4} Dr.Pepper. {5} Galaga.

Any messages ?

To all skins and punks - Keep your heads up and fight on ! thru unity we will stay strong !! - raise yer glass !!!

Big cheers to John for answering the questions , all the best for the future buddy and I'm keeping me digits crossed that we will see and hear a 7" or 10" with the name COUNTLESS VICTIMS on it soon !! And looking forward to hearing 'Plain Truth' !! Oi! Oi!

COUNTLESS VICTIMS !!!!!!!!!!!

the Adolescents u.k.



Hailing from sunny , well erm..not so sunny I'm informed by Tez , Doncaster The Adolescents UK are in the forefront of the British punk rock scene. They play honest to goodness punk rock tunes that just wanna make you bounce round the room and put a smile on yer face while your doin it ! I sent Tez a load of questions and top bloke that he is he answered 'em , with Jez and dave aiding n abetting occasionally !!

Well first question has to be whats it like up in sunny Donny ?

Well at the moment its pissing down , we don't get much sun in Doncaster , we had 1 day last year , it was a Wednesday in August !!

And the second is , what comes first the Sunday roast or the Yorkshires ?

Haha I'm glad you asked me this one , I was brought up to have my Yorkshire puddings with gravy first then the roast 'n' veg but there again I was born in Durham and all my family are Geordies. I know some people have their puds with their meal and some before , I think if you have it with your meal they get too soggy , still an imprtant question and one that needs to be asked , perhaps the fuckwits at the European whatsitsname can publish some guidelines on the matter.

That outta the way , when did it all begin and where did the name come from ?

Well the band was started at school in 1982 before I joined. Jez formed a band with his classmates called TNT which later became The Adolescents obviously because of their tender ages , we should now be called the fucking Convelescence UK !! After leaving school both guitarists left and I

being a friend of the drummer Slooth, joined in 1984 and we played as a 3 piece until about 1986 when Slooth left and 2 of our mates Scott and Norman joined on extra guitar and drums, after going down well locally we started to get good reviews from fanzines abroad so we decided to form our own label ('Yakakaa' which is still going today) and release our first EP "Yakakaa" (by the way 'Yakakaa' comes from something Jez used to shout at high pitch behind people when he was pissed, to scare the shit out of them if you were wondering), it was then that we changed the name to The Adolescents UK mainly because we knew there was an American H/C band called The Adolescents, by changing the o to a u and putting UK on the end meant not even the most cerebrally challenged clown could confuse the 2 bands!! Unfortunately by the time it was released (1989) we had split up after a fight between me n Scott at a gig in Sheffield, but around 1990 we reformed with a new lad, Beaver, on drums and Scott still played guitar for a while (we kissed and made up). In 1992 we released a split EP with German band 'The Pissed Spitzels'. In between this we kept gigging as usual. Scott left a year or so later and we stayed as a 3 piece appearing on a compilation CD on 'Rage Records' (part of 'Nervous Records'). One big mistake around that time was to acquire a manager (with a drink problem) and although in that time we released a mini album 96 tracks) called "Society Owes Me A Living" and did a tour with GBH and The English Dogs, by the time we sacked him we were in shit creek debt wise and a bit disillusioned with the whole thing, our drummer Beaver left to play for a well paid covers band and we struggled with a succession of stand in drummers, throughout everything we kept playing that's the thing we are in it for, playing live, you can't beat it!! Bringing us to 2004 I met a young lad called Dave at work, and discovered he used to play drums so he joined up and at the moment things are tickety boo, we have a shit load of new songs which are on our new CD album "Banging A Shovel Against A Shed" released late last year (2005). We are gigging regular still although we still don't think we gig enough, its not for the lack of trying. So there you are 24 years of punk rock, fist fights, beer, gigs n friendship, well you did ask!!!!

Had any of you been in bands before?

No. Can't really add much more on that score, sorry.

Whats the current line up? How do you think it compares to previous line ups?

Jez on bass and lead vox, myself; Tez on guitar and backing vocals, and Quality Dave on drums. This is the best line up we've had, we all know how to rock and how to have a good time and hopefully this comes through in our live shows. As regards other line up's it's always been myself and Jez who ran the show so to speak but all members of past line ups have had their qualities. The Beaver, Jez, Tez line up was on par with what we have now and a whole lot of fun. There's been some prize fuck up's who have been in the band but I'm not going to slag anyone off in print that's cowardly.

Who writes the lyrics? And where do they get their ideas from?

Most of the lyrics come from Jez although I write the odd song here and there and some songs are a whole band effort. Song ideas for myself come from everyday events, stuff on the TV, something someone says to you, anything that amuses me, annoys me or upsets me, anything from going down the pub to brain surgery to time travel, we have serious aspects to our songs but also light hearted trivial stuff, that's what life is like, I think!!

(JEZ) All sorts of places, mainly sarcastic observations on life usually without trying to put too much viewpoint forward. War, Social outcasts, and history are always meaty topics to use i.e. no war no more, daddy woz a soldier, deathwish, fruitfarm, titanic etc.. some songs are just piss takes like 'Mr. Majors on the dole' and 'Elvis didn't last'. I like to take well respected people or celebs that are supposedly media gods and drag their names through the mud, just like the normal boring people they really are.

What bands influence your music?

Obviously all the best 70's stuff The Clash, Pistols, Damned, Ramones, Buzzcocks.. through to second wave stuff like GBH, Exploited, Vice Squad, Chrono gen etc... then a bit of grunge movement and present day stuff like Bad Religion, Rancid, and Dropkick Murphys. Our sound has absorbed all that stuff as well as a list of bands n genre's too lengthy to mention. At the moment I am listening to some old Trojan box sets, but I don't think we'll suddenly start sounding like Desmond Dekker!

Do you play any cover versions?

Yes, we like to have a bit of fun with our cover versions, at the moment we can choose from "Marys Boy Child", "Imagine", "Leaning On The Lampost", "Please Release Me", "You Really Got Me" and "Sheena Is A Punk Rocker", apart from "Sheena" all our covers are a bit strange but what's the point of just doing punk covers in a punk style, better to do a blatantly non punk song in a punk style or a punk song in a non punk style, we do a club style version of one of our own songs "No No".

If you had to pick a favourite from your songs which would it be and why?

"Stop The World I Wanna Get Off", cos I think it's a great piece of songwriting by Jez, with a superbly catchy guitar riff, he initially wrote it on the piano that's why we persuaded him to include a piano intro on the CD. The lyrics are great too they give an insight into our way of looking at the world, wouldn't it be just great to get off the earth every now and then and take a breather, recharge your batteries then get back on where you left off!?

(DAVE) "Stone Cold Sober" is my favourite song.

You've played loadsa gigs, is there a favourite?

The Marquee with GBH and Police Bastard (1995 I think) was a bit special for us, hundreds of die hard punx and a big stage to run about on, I fell on my arse a coupla times fucking about but it was worth it. Second to that was a little bar in Cherbourg packed with French punx with Union Jacks on their leathers, the stage was right at the back of a long bar room, after the gig we couldn't get out, everyone wanted to talk with us which would have been great but none of them spoke English and our accumulated French ranged from Bilblioteque (library), Rouge (red), and Fromage (cheese), so we crawled along the floor to get out and about 20 of 'em followed me out, Beaver had them all shouting 'Biblioteque', it was funny as fuck!!

(JEZ) The Galway Arms, Harworth, Nottinghamshire in 1987, one of our first proper pub gigs in our own right, the owners left the bar unattended for a while, we helped ourselves to the pumps n optics, when the time came to play we didn't know what fuckin planet we were on, needless to say we were shit, they pulled the pub down soon after that, we gave it the last rites!

(DAVE) The White Lion, Braunton, Devon. We played 2 whole sets back to back, about 1 1/2 hours non stop, the crowd loved it.

If you were given a chance to play with any band (past or present) who would it be and why ?

The Clash , because pound for pound they were the best punk band ever , tunes , aggression , and style , their sound never dates.

(JEZ) The Ramones cos their sound is fun and simple , but efficient.

(DAVE) Nirvana , as they were an amazing band of their time and Kurt Cobain is a legend.

Whats your opinion on the current UK scene ? Bands ?



I don't get out to see enough bands nowadays , only the ones we gig with really , it seems pretty healthy , although there seems to be a lot of young bands who seem to think the be all and end all of their ambitions is to get signed and while for some bands that might be the best thing , the satisfaction of doing it yourself and having full control of everything your band does can't be understated. The internet is connecting a lot of people round the UK into setting up their own projects , gigs , releases , etc.. that is the way forward , I have always believed that , do it yourself. There doesn't seem to be anyone challenging the bigger names , I love bands like the Subs , 999 , GBH etc.. but apart from maybe The Dead Pets There's not many contenders , maybe that's something to do with the punk crowd not going to gigs unless there's a 'name' headline , how punk rock is that ?!

And the scene worldwide ?

The punk scene worldwide is still massive mainly due to the American contingent Rancid , Greenday , Dropkick Murphys , NOFX etc ... but that's just the shiny coat over the stubborn understains of dirty little punk bands keeping their local scenes alive , all power to the big fellas but without the little fellas they know they wouldn't exist. The myspace generation is keeping the punk population going in a way , its fascinating to know somewhere in Kuala Lumpa there's a punk band playing their local bar , in the same breath a local band can send you a message asking if you fancy doing a support slot with them next week and you can bulletin virtually every punk on the planet to let 'em know what your bands up to.

How do you see it going in the future ?

In my crystal ball I see more DIY scenes happening , well I sincerely hope so , there is no reason why not , gig goers , old punx and young uns alike are getting ripped off with CD/DVD and ticket prices from the corporates , its really not very punk rock. Like I said myspace and other web communities have the power to usurp the majors with free downloads , properly priced CD's , T-Shirts etc .. , but with that comes a responsibility for the bands to get their act together and put out quality sounds and merchandise.

Are there any bands out there that catch your attention ?

If we're talking purely punk n oi! there's a young band called Outlaw who are a fucking blast , their voices haven't even broke yet but they're so old school punk its unbelievable , hopefully we are going to play some gigs with younger bands like Outlaw , Koopa , Re-Con , and Area 15 with 'Power chord promotions'. The way forward for punk as a whole is to embrace the younger bands into the fold , there is a bit of snobishness on behalf of the older punk/oi! fans/bands , I tell you play some gigs with these whippersnappers they have no blinkers on , if it rocks they'll love it. Just cos they wear jeans round their arse doesn't mean they don't know shit , our drummer is a young lad into all the new punk/metal/emo stuff but he loves all the old punk stuff we've played him.

I've never seen a bad review about the band live or your releases , that must please you ? Is it something you work hard on ?

Yeah that does please us , infact the only bad review we ever had was in the local press by a young lass who thought Busted were a punk band and only liked sleaze rock , it was laughable really , all she went on about was that we were too old to be punx , haha what a div !! But mainly we are well reviewed and I think that's cos we write catchy songs that have bollocks and no pretensions , its hard to predict what people think of our music but it must be good cos we keep getting gigs and selling CD's , if we weren't doing that I'd worry. We rehearse mostly every week so the gigs never get sloppy , we have a laugh on stage but we're not comedians , I hate seeing bands who fuck about too much on stage to cover up the fact that they're crap , I'm like "get on with it or fuck off" , we have a 3 song rule i.e. do 3 songs without a gap then have a bit of banter/silliness then get on with the next 3 , people don't want long gaps of shit in between songs , or at least , I don't.

What about your new CD ? Hows it doing ? Are you pleased with the outcome ?

The new CD is doing great we'll soon have to get some more copies done , we've got 4 tracks on www.myspace.com/theadulcentsuk , you can download em and give us a comment ya fuckers !! We are getting airplay all over the place like Mohawk Radio , Maximum Rock 'n' Roll Radio and Generation Punk Radio in the USA plus a few around Britain and Europe. We have had good reviews on punk 'n' oi! website , in Maximum Rock 'n' Roll magazine and oh god loads of fanzines , magazines etc... It's the best thing we've recorded , we are dead pleased with it. It took us 3 days to record 14 tracks that was fuckin hectic I can tell you , but the production on it is great , professional but still got all the anarchy left in.

How do you think it compares to previous releases ?

It is definatley superior in song writing and production to "Society Owes Me A Living" and "Titanic Ambitions" but 'hey' we think they are still good albums , there isn't anything we are ashamed of , if there was we wouldn't have released it , obviously.

Whats your releases to date ? And which one do you rate as the best ?

'Yakakaa' Vinyl EP (1989 Yakakaa Records) , Split EP with Pissed Spitzels (1992 Schlawiner Records) , Punkompilation (1993 Rage Records) , 'Society Owes me A Living' (1996 Yakakaa Records) , Collectable Recordings (2002 Orion Studio sampler) , 'Titanic Ambitions' (1996 Yakakaa Records) , 'Banging A Shovel Against A Shed' (2005 Yakakaa Records) and the best is the new one of course !!!

Are they available from you ? Any other merchandise ?

The Yakakaa EP , Society , Shovel are all available from the band (email.. adulcents@btinternet.com for availability) plus t-shirts n badges too. Titanic is out of stock at mo , as far as I know Schlawiner Records still exists so the split single can be got off them and Rage Records is now looked after by Nervous Records so Society and the Punkompilation can be got from them but you can get Society off us cheaper. If you live in Doncaster you can get Shovel from The Leopard and Track Records.

If you had to sum up the band members in 3 words what would they be ?

TEZ – Feck / Arse / Girls

JEZ – Tunes / Humerous / Fast

DAVE – Energetic / Ale / Fun

What have you got planned for the future ?

As many gigs as possible , anyone out there want to book us get in touch babies !! Ongoing song writing , rehearsing , gigging , drinking , watching and playing footy , fallin over , eating pizza , and listening to the best music on earth – PUNK ROCK ! Oh yeah we are working on a DVD of our best songs accompanied by little films and live footage.

Any messages ??

Be a YAKAFOOL , BLOW YOUR HORN !!!!

Well a big cheers to Tez and the lads for the interview , and I'd just like to wish 'em all the best for the future... and if you ever find yerselves in France again try this out " 'J'mapelle Tez , Un reglar vert" (Only bit of French I know part from oui , non and patisserie !!!) .. not sure of the spelling but I think it roughly translates as ...My name is Tez , My ruler is green !! ... That should open a few doors for ya lads , police cell doors probably but hey ho ...haha !!

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Well , The Dirty Rotten Imbeciles , or D.R.I. as they're more commonly known , are a band that really need no introduction ... around since 1982 they've been at the top of the tree (no pun intended Kurt !) since the release of their "Dirty Rotten" EP , and along with a few others were one of the main bands responsible for the hardcore / crossover movement , that inspired a generation of bands and fans....I caught up with frontman Kurt before the band embarked on a 7 week tour of the States.....

For those that don't know , can you tell us how you got the name D.R.I. ?

That was one of the many names my father used to call us when we practised in my parents house.

I know 24 years is a long time but can you give us a brief history of the band ?

We started in Houston , moved to San Francisco , 15 years later I moved back to Texas , Rob went to Florida and Spike is up in Washington. We've had several bass players and drummers but Spike and I started the band and have hung with it all this time.

Whose idea was it to start the band in the first place ?

My brother Eric , he started learning drums in his room having bought a kit from a friend. Eric was a senior in High School. I had been writing poetry for several years. A friend of ours suggested me singing the lyrics. I jumped at the chance , bought a PA system and was good to go. We enlisted a friend named Dennis Johnson on bass. He didn't know how to play but Eric taught him a few riffs. When we found Spike we were a band.

At the time what bands did you listen to ? And which had a major influence on D.R.I.'s music ?

Black Flag , TSOL , Minor Threat , Dead Kennedys , MDC , Verbal Abuse , Bad Brains etc... Early 80's American Hardcore.

What was it like back then ? And how would you say its changed ?

Thanks to the crossover movement the scene has blended more than it used to be.

Your first release , the now legendary , "Dirty Rotten" EP was really well received , when you hear it now what do you think ?

What it lacks in quality it makes up for with its sheer intensity.

And how do you feel about the fact that it inspired a whole host of new bands and fans ?

Its great ! Even Dave Grohl said my brother inspired him to start playing drums fast.

Why did the band re-locate to San Francisco ? How different was it to where you lived in Texas ?

More shows in SF , I rather like the weather in California as well.

Where did the 'D.R.I. logo come from ? And who thought of it ?

My brother , Eric drew that for an art school class project.



Not long after you moved to San Francisco you done the 'Rock Against reagan' tour with The Dead Kennedys have you ever thought of a 'Rock against Bush' tour - 'Bollox To Bush' you could call it ? I think some other bands did the Bush thing already.

You were one of the main bands of the 'crossover' movement , was this a deliberate direction that you took ?

Natural but deliberate yes.

What other bands of that period did you like ?

Bad Brains , Black Flag , Suicidal tendencies , Slayer , Exodus , C.O.C.

Your audiences consisted of (and still do I think) punks , skins and metalheads , was there much trouble between the groups ? And did you get any trouble with nazi assholes ?

Lots of trouble at first , yes , and lots of nazi assholes.

You've played all over the world , is there a favourite place you've visited ? Fave gig ?

Just imagine travelling to far off countries and being greeted by the coldest people in the whole country , Rock fans ! Santiago in Chile was awesome , the festivals in Europe , playing Bosnia , Croatia , its all been such fun and beautiful. The Swiss Alps I'll never forget.

When your on stage now do you still get the same buzz as when you first started ?

My first show I dived off the stage before I even started singing and almost didn't come back , I was terrified !! I've gotten a little better but still get nervous , its just that I'm able to enjoy myself now instead of feeling sick.

Talking of gigs you've got a 7 week tour of the States coming up , are you looking forward to that ? And whose supporting you ?

Yes , Sub-Zero will be goin out with us this summer.

The band members are spread all over the USA , does this make it hard to get together ?

Yes , we only see each other when the tour starts.

From the D.R.I. releases to date , have you got a personal favourite ?

My favourites change , "Full Speed Ahead" has some good songs on it. Each album has a couple of gems.

Where do you get the idea's for your lyrics ? Do you find it easy to write ?

I read a lot and try to observe people , politics , and society. Writing can be easy , and sometimes hard.

Your with 'Beer City Records' now , how did that come about ?

We heard they treat their bands right , pay on time , promote you and help you in many ways...we heard right !!

Have you got any releases planned for the near future ?

'Beer City' will be putting out the enhanced version of 'Crossover' soon.

Whats kept the band going for all these years Kurt ?

Our fans of course ! That plus , for me personally , a perfect chance to publish and perform my lyrics.

You've published/written a few books , what have they been about and are you still doing that ?

Notes from the nest ; about me living in a tree , the 30 day diarrhea diet plan , See the loud feeling ,

And Whore stories. I'm selling the books but have not written a new one for a while.

What bands around today do you enjoy listening to ?

Trouble , Life Of Agony , Turbonegro , C.O.C. ...

And where do D.R.I. go from here ?

On tour I hope !

Any messages ?

We have a song "Couch Slouch" on Tony hawks new video game "American Wasteland".

Well thanks to Kurt for the interview , appreciated mate ! On the subject of the tour I'm afraid it's been cancelled due to D.R.I.'s Spike Cassidy being diagnosed with cancer ... I'm sure all readers will join me in wishing Spike a full and speedy recovery and that our thoughts are with him and his family at this time . You can help out Spike and his family by making a donation through paypal at

www.dirtyrottenimbeciles.com or by writing to Spike Cassidy , Cancer Relief , PO Box 487 , Poulsbo , WA 98370 , USA .



RECORD REVIEWS....

ANFIBIO RECORDS , Via Brenti 5 , 26100 Cremona , Italy .

ISTINTO ANTIFASCISTA vs SUBCULTURE VOICE - "ANTIFASCIST VOICES" (ANF 012).

This seems to be a joint venture between several Italian labels (Anfibio/Take Away/Full Of Hate/A Way Of Life/Battachio/Spirit Of 36) and features 2 bands , namely Istinto Antifascista and Subculture Voice. First up are Milan's Istinto Antifascista who supply us with 9 tracks of Italian Oi! music , hard edged sounds with gravelly rough around the edges vocals .. which sounded great , especially their cover of the legendary Nabat's "Scenderemo Nelle Strade" , the next 7 tracks are courtesy of Subculture Voice who give you 'in yer face' Streetpunk/Oi! , which kind of reminded me of some of the 80's Oi! bands in a way .. and their cover of The Oppressed's "Ultra Violence" would make Roddy and the boys proud. All in all , 16 tracks of excellent Italian Oi!/Streetpunk that would sound good on anyone's CD player !

NATURAL BORN DRINKERS - "SZ/8" (LMB 004 - ANF 008).

Another joint release between Italian labels , this time it's Anfibio Records and Lambrusco Records. As soon as I saw the name of the band I thought "Eh up people after my own heart these should be good" haha .. and they are , fuckin good ! 13 tracks of Oi! , these lads can certainly play and the vocalist sounds like he eats the glass after drinking it's contents , great stuff !! Just check out the track "Bevi" which has a great Ska intro only to launch into 100 mph Oi! Oi! music , corking stuff !! And there's also a decent cover of The Business' "Drinking & Driving" (Had to be that one didn't it haha) .. Definately a disc that's worth adding to your collection folks.

MELE MARCE - "XI COMANDAMENTO" (ANF 001).

Well what can I say !! I opened the case up , took the disc out and there it was .. a geezer's arse staring back at me !! haha .. so with a little foreboding I dropped the disc into the player .. but I needn't have worried , what blared back at me outta the speakers was top notch Streetpunk , real foot tapping stuff that you just wanna sing-along-too (well if you can speak Italian that is ! But hey if not make it up as you go along , works for me !!) , I have no problem whatsoever recommending you all to buy this fuckin' CD now !!

CERVELLI STANKI - "ASOCIALE/CONCRETO IMPEGNO" (2 TRACK PROMO CD).

A taster of Cervelli Stanki's forthcoming CD which is to be released on 'Anfibio records' , and after hearing these 2 track's all i can really say is ... fuckin' great tunes ... hurry up and bring out the disc Christian !!!

CAPTAIN Oi! RECORDS , PO Box 501 , High Wycombe , Bucks , HP10 8QA , England.

RED ALERT - "EXCESS ALL AREAS" (AHOY CD 253).

What is it with Red Alert ? .. they just seem to get better and better with time , and age ! , every new Red Alert release seem's to better the last , even though at the time you doubt it's possible to top the previous release !! With "Excess All Areas" you get 12 tracks of Streetpunk that just , quite simply , blows you away .. I'd like to see Steve and the lads top this one !

CRASHED OUT - "PEARLS BEFORE SWINE" (AHOY CD 260).

Ever since I heard Crashed Out's debut album I just knew they were goin to go onto greater thing's .. and the proof is in the pudding so the saying goes , or in this case their latest CD offering ! "Pearls Before Swine" is an absolute gem of an album , a coming of age for the Georgie boys , and in my humble know fuck all opinion is a classic for the future , and with bands like Crashed Out and tracks like "Fat Punks Don't Pogo" , "Freakshow" and "Reality Punk" .. the future of Streetpunk is in safe hands and looks very rosey indeed !

GUITAR GANGSTERS - "LET 'EM HAVE IT" (AHOY CD 255).

Personally speaking I've always thought that the Guitar Gangsters are very under-rated ! I'd say that these lads are up there at the top of the ladder .. and really deserve more recognition than they currently get ! "Let 'Em Have It" is 14 tracks of melodic Streetpunk that everyone will like .. guaranteed !!

CHELSEA - "FASTER,CHEAPER & BETTER LOOKING" (AHOY CD 259).

To be honest I've never been a huge Chelsea fan , tho' you know what you're getting .. decent , quality punk tunes with meaning and feeling .. and this disc is no different ! A quality disc , that will appeal to punks , old and new alike !!

GOLDBLADE - "REBEL SONGS" (AHOY CD 252).

Well I've gotta admit I'd never heard of Goldblade before receiving this CD .. But after listening to it I must admit I shall certainly be on the lookout for 'em again ! Rousing , rebellious , melodic sing-along anthems that makes the adrenalin run ... Street Rock 'n' Roll ala 2006 !!!

RECORD REVIEWS....

STEP-1 RECORDS , PO Box 21 , Tenterden , Kent , TN30 7ZZ , England.

THE RUDE BOYS - "SKA FEVER" (STEP CD 167).

This could be the original thing I tell ya !! But it ain't , it's Roddy of The Oppressed fame & Co. playing what can only be described as classic Ska tunes .. this takes me back to when I was young and used to listen to me sisters records (Des Dekker , Dave & Ansel Collins , Prince Buster , Harry J & The Allstars etc..) , this disc just oozes class Ska , and if you're into it , young or old , you'd be a fool to miss it ! Even my sis and bruv in law were skankin' away around the house to this , what more can I say - pure class and a joy to listen to !

OI POLLOI - "PIGS FOR SLAUGHTER/20 YEARS OF ANARCHO-PUNK CHAOS ! (STEP CD 169).

23 tracks of absolute anarcho-punk , and I loved every minute of it !! I've liked Oi Polloi since I first ever heard 'em back in the 80's and this CD prove's they ain't changed one fuckin bit !! Still singing (and fighting) for what they believe in , includes some interesting and funny write up's in the sleeve booklet about tour stories and how the songs came about. This is a gotta get !!

SMASH POINTS - "SMASH POINTS" (STEP CD 168).

Good ol' US of Oi! , The Smash Points supply you with 11 tracks of rough around the edges Oi! music that reminds me a lot of early 80's British Oi! .. all in all not a bad listen and debut really !

SUNNY BASTARDS RECORDS , Brosweg 8 , 45239 Essen , Germany.

V/A - "KICK IT .. WITH BOOTS" (SB-CD 013).

20 tracks of the worlds best music dedicated to the worlds greatest game !! How can this CD be anything but brilliant I hear you say , and I'd say you're right , it's a great CD .. toypack kick off proceedings with "WM 06" , have to say tho' boys Germany 5 England 1 !?! In yer dreams boys haha (mind you with Sven at the helm anything could happen !) , and then you have the likes of Volxsturm , Down The Drain , Warfare , Pobel & Gesocks , Urban Rejects ... supplying quality tunes , I've gotta admit that there's not 1 track on this CD that I dislike .. well worth a listen people !

GENUINE RUST/URBAN REJECTS - "SPLIT CD" (SB-CD 007)

Germany's Urban Rejects are first up , and what you get are 5 pure Oi!/Streetpunk tunes all sung in English .. I'd heard a lot about these boys and after hearing these tracks I can honestly say all the talk was justified , kinda reminiscent of 80's Oi! Urban Rejects are a genuine joy to listen to .. Next are Genuine Rust who hail from New Hampshire in the USA .. and their first track "Makeshift Morgue" immediately got my foot tappin' .. and from there on didn't stop !! reminds me of years ago round me mates listening to Psychobilly tracks , they have that feel about 'em .. fuckin awesome !! Great stuff ..

BOVVER BOYS - "WELCOME TO BORDERLAND" (SB-CD 005)

You'll be hard pushed to get a better debut than this ! 12 tracks .. 11 of melodic Streetpunk and 1 that's more in a Psychobilly type vein .. and all well worth a listen believe me folks ! Germany ain't half knockin out some decent bands .. all the tracks sung in English and included are 2 covers , firstly The Ejected's "Gonna Get A Gun" and the other "Lionheart" by The Last Resort , which is an amazin cover ! This is a must buy for any self respecting Skin , Punk , 'Erbert or Hooligan !

DOWN THE DRAIN - "MUSIC FOR TROUBLEMAKERS" (SB-CD 018).

Yet another good album from yet another German band , and once again all sung in English ! The name of the album say's it all really .. listen to this before you go out on the town , have a few jars along the way .. and its guaranteed to get you in the mood ! Hard music , hard vocals .. for hard bastards !! Just buy a copy !!

WARFARE - FIERCE INTENTIONS (SB-CD 010).

Weecell , all I can say is that they must put summat in the beer over there cos Warfare are yet another great German band who have come out with a great album ! "Fierce Intentions" has 2 CD's , 1 with 12 songs on and all sung in English , and 6 on the other , all in their native tongue ..but regardless of what language and which disc you listen to , what you're getting is 18 tracks of Stret Core at it's best , and just check out "Screwing USA" which is sung to the tune of The Beach Boy's "Surfin USA" ... Class ! .. Great listening !!!

LAST CRIME NATION - "DIRECT ACTION" (SB-CD 015).

Hardcore .. ala Deutschland style , and it certainly blows the cobwebs away I can tell ya ! From the first track of this CD to the last , its hard , energetic , forceful music that grabs your attention .. and manages to kick you in the balls at the same time !! As with the earlier 'Sunny Bastards' reviews L.C.N. sing in English (apart from 1 track) , but whatever language they sing in it's definatley worth listening to !!

RECORD REVIEWS....

YAKAKAA RECORDS , 137 Doncaster Road , Tickhill , Doncaster , DN11 9JD , England.

THE ADULESCENTS UK - "BANGING A SHOVEL AGAINST A SHED" (SHOVEL 001).

Top quality British Punk Rock as it should be .. from the opening track to the last , this CD had me singing along and bouncing around the room like a possessed demonic spacehopper with the air being let out !! Fuck , I wish I had a padded room , damn NHS cuts , ahem anyways , as I was saying this is a great CD , every track oozes energy , quality and PUNK FUCKIN ROCK !! .. buy the fucker NOW !!

DIRTY PUNK RECORDS , BP 10302 , 59666 Villeneuve D'ascq Cedex , France.

V/A - "DIRTY PUNK RECORDS SAMPLER" (DPRPromo 01).

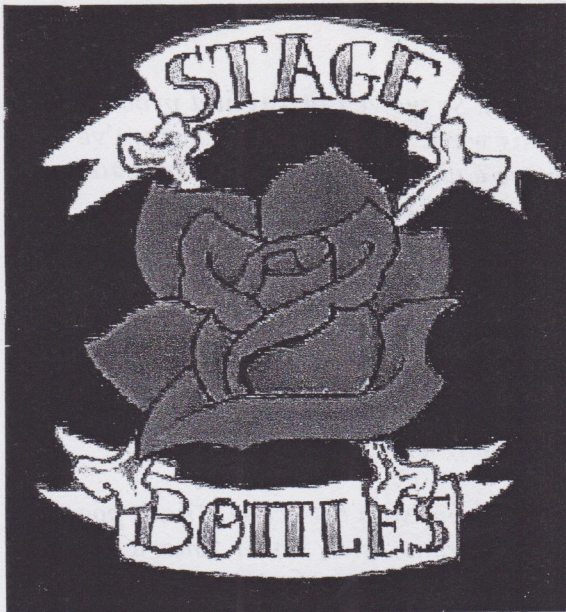
20 tracks of excellent Punk n Oil , just look at the line up of bands on this CD and you'll see what's in store for you , you've got The UK Subs , Red Flag 77 , Reazione , Charge 69 , Lower Class Brats , Total Chaos And the list goes on ... some of the bands I've never heard of like Dipsomanie , Down and Away and The Drive Ins ... but every single band contribute class tracks , there's not 1 that I don't like !! A great release , full stop !!

CLASS WAR RECORDS , PO Box 444 , 1001 Avenda Pico , Ste. C , San Clemente , CA 92673 , USA.

BONECRUSHER - "LIVE AT THE DOLL HUT" (CWR 003).

As I said at the start of their interview in this issue I think Bonecrusher are one of the most under-rated bands going and deserve more recognition , and this album shows you what they're like live , great quality sound wise and the music just blows you away .. some of the classic crusher tracks are on ere like "Animal" , "No Escape" , and "Corporate Nation" , as well as tracks I'd never heard before ... but combine 'em and what you get is 16 tracks of in yer face , working class street rock 'n' roll anthems !!! An I'm gonna get to see 'em live .. can't fuckin wait !!!!!





Anyone who knows anything about the scene will have heard of The Stage Bottles a German band that's been around for over a decade, they've remained true to their roots and as their slogan states they're... "Sometimes antisocial BUT always anti-fascist!" ..Once I'd decided on doing a 'zine The Stage Bottles were one of the first bands on my list so I lost no time in contacting Olaf, and here is the end result..enjoy !!.....

So Olaf tell us when did it all begin for the band & what made you start it in the first place? We started in 1993. A few friends of mine had already started a band with a different name a few months before but the frontman left. So they asked me if I'd be up for singing 'cos they knew

that I'd already had experience of playing in a band. I played the saxophone in The Beggars ITA in 1992. So I already had lots of contacts in the music scene due to the fact that I'd already organised 2 tours for The Beggars in Germany. So right from the start people were interested in The Stage Bottles, that fact helped us start the band.

Where did the name The Stage Bottles come from?

It's hard to explain in English. When we were thinking of a name our bassist at the time suggested calling the band 'Free Bottles' so that loads of people would turn up at gigs. Then I said "Yes, 4 bottles on stage", 'bottles' is kinda German slang for 'losers' so we decided to call the band 'Stage Bottles'..the 4 losers on stage'.

What was the original line up? What's the line up now? Have you had much trouble with line up changes?

We've had many changes over the years. We originally started with only 1 guitar, drums, bass and vocals. On our second gig with The Business I started to play the sax and Manu, our female singer, started as well. But Manu and the other members left for various reasons. Now we have 2 guitars, Marcell (in the band since 1998) and Easy Dan (2004), Till on drums (2006) and Kimba on bass (2006). I'm the only original member. But we've had a few changes in between that were very important in the musical development of the band, now we're trying to hold that level.

Have any of the band been in bands before?

I've started playing with The Beggars again, I'm replacing the dead singer Matty Blag. Marcel is playing guitar, he used to play in right wing bands before but he changed over to the anti-fascist side years ago. I have been a guest musician with Peter & The Test Tube Babies, Red Alert, Mad Sin, the Frantic Flintstones, Klasse Kriminale, Los Fastidios, Ex Cathedra, The Newtown Neurotics, Attila The Stockbrokers Barnstormer and a few others. The others have also played in different bands but they were not very popular.

When you started the band what bands influenced your attitude/music?

The main influence is definitely The Beggars. When I came back to Germany at the end of 1992 I'd already had a lesson from The Beggars on how to combine real anti-fascism, fun and being kind of anti social whilst still playing good music. Other influences are The Angelic Upstarts, The 4 Skins, Leatherface and a few others. My way of playing sax is definitely influenced by Jazz. But at the end of the day we don't think we sound like any other band. We play the songs and those songs are Stage Bottles songs. The most important thing that we took from other bands is their straight attitude which we also try to live by.

What was the scene like in your area when you started? Germany as a whole?

When we started we were a straight anti-fascist skinhead band. Us in Frankfurt and friends

from Berlin were working hard on building SHARP from 1989. So we've always had problems with fascists and non-political people when we continued this work with the band..But we've also had big support and we still have , of course. But now we call ourselves more a 'Subculture band' because our audience is made up of different subcultures like hooligans , skinheads , punks and other people. And that's what the scene is like. In the early 90's the scene was more split. Now we have all come together. But the problem with nazi's is still the same but they're getting more isolated especially in some football firms. But it always depends on the area in Germany.

And what are they like today ? How would you say they've changed ?

We're coming together and realise everyone who wants to be different is an enemy of society.

What do you think of the current scene worldwide ? How do you see it/like to see it go in the future ?

There's one big difference to the earlier days , the internet is globalising the scene. That's good ! Also for bands like us who get offers to play or receive interest from Asia , South America , and so on. So I hope that we are able to do a worldwide network to help each other out and learn from each others experiences. I think within the scene the boundaries are falling down , I hope !!

What bands do you currently listen to ? Are there any new German bands that we should listen out for ?

I'm listening to the older English streetpunk stuff. Of course there are some good German bands but I don't wanna name any cos I'll forget to name some. But there's one problem with new bands in Germany , many of them want to be/sound like others so they're not really authentic and I don't listen to them apart from the quality of their music. I'm 36 years old now and to be honest its hard to get kicked by new bands.

You take a very anti-fascist stance , have the band always held these views strongly ? And is it something you set out to do deliberately ?

I told you about the situation with SHARP at the beginning of the band. On the other hand I got a kind of further education by playing in The Beggars. So we were that way right from the start and we still are.

Do you think its important to state where you stand on the matter ?

Yes it is. Because we are unfortunately very close to the nazi scene at football matches or sometimes at gigs , so there's no way to ignore it. We also live a way of life that's definitely unacceptable to the nazi's , we would have been killed in the third reich. And I can't ignore it if any of my friends/people are attacked because they're not German or because of the colour of their skin. Being a member of a subculture means that you wanna be different to the rest of society 'cos you don't wanna be part of the system. So you can't only say that somethings bad you have also got to try and find different ways , that's politics.

There's a lot of anti-fascist groups i.e. SHARP , AFSA , RASH .. whats your opinion on them ? There's also many bands , zines , labels that are anti-fascist nowadays , do you see this growing Olaf ?

I see this growing but the problem is that some of these groups are acting in isolation. We Don't wanna be labelled as a RASH band for example but we support the people. But we are also a band for non skinheads. These days I can't only think in categories like skinhead and so on. But on the other hand I love to play in front of non fascist skinheads. We'll never forget our roots !! Another important thing is those groups are necessary for young people to find a place within the scene. So it's good that they exist altho' not everything they're doing is clever , but then who doesn't make mistakes !?! Ah , I forgot , I don't like Stalinists ! They are mis-using the left and they are often the reason that people don't listen.

Would you prefer to see people put aside their political/personal differences and stop some of the in-fighting and unite under one anti-fascist banner ?

That's definatley one thing that would be reasonable. I think its important to see that people grew up differently. With some people you can be happy when they are acting as anti-fascists. You can't expect more right from the start from some people , maybe never. With other people you can fight fascism and you can discuss with them about an alternative society and fight for it. Maybe the others will join in.

Because of SHARP etc .. do you think that skinheads are now viewed in a more positive light these days ?

I think in public more people know about the real roots of skinheads and so unlike earlier times , like the '80s , its possible to do all nighters , gigs etc.. But many people are still not informed. In Germany there is large press about boneheads , that creates prejudices of course. I'm afraid that it won't be possible to stop until there are no more boneheads.

Why do you think that some people automatically think that if you're a skinhead then you're a racist ? I mean , to me personally , being a skin has fuck all to do with being a racist because of where it all started !

Like I said before , some wankers call themselves skinheads , look like skinheads to the ordinary public and so at the end of the day to those people they are skinheads and so to them skinheads are nazi's.

What do you think of the current anti-fascist skinhead scene ? And how do you see it going in the future ?

It will survive and it will grow in a time of many problems such as unemployment. The same with the nazi scene I'm afraid. Subcultures always grow in times of hardship and crisis. But the anti-fascist skinhead scene was built on solid foundations and won't disappear , that's good.

And what do you think is the best way to rid ourselves of the nazi element ?

Tell people the facts , talk to young people and show them there are different ways to be a rebel. Fight them on the streets and overtake their free spaces. Don't leave any room for nazi views , in the heads/minds and on the streets.

Because of your views do you (or have you had) get much trouble at gigs ?

Yes , but we always won. Only 1 time last year I got kicked by nazi's in Belgium when I replaced the singer of the band , the Porters. I didn't realise that I'm still well known even when I don't play with the usual bands. But I was lucky and the day of revenge will come.

Talking of gigs , you've played many Olaf , all over the place and with many great bands , have you got a favourite ?

Well , its great to have played with Cock Sparrer , The Angelic Upstarts...I'll stop there , 'cos At the end of the day we've played with nearly every authentic streetpunk band that's ever existed , at festivals or as the support band of great bands. It's a big honour that we got this chance.

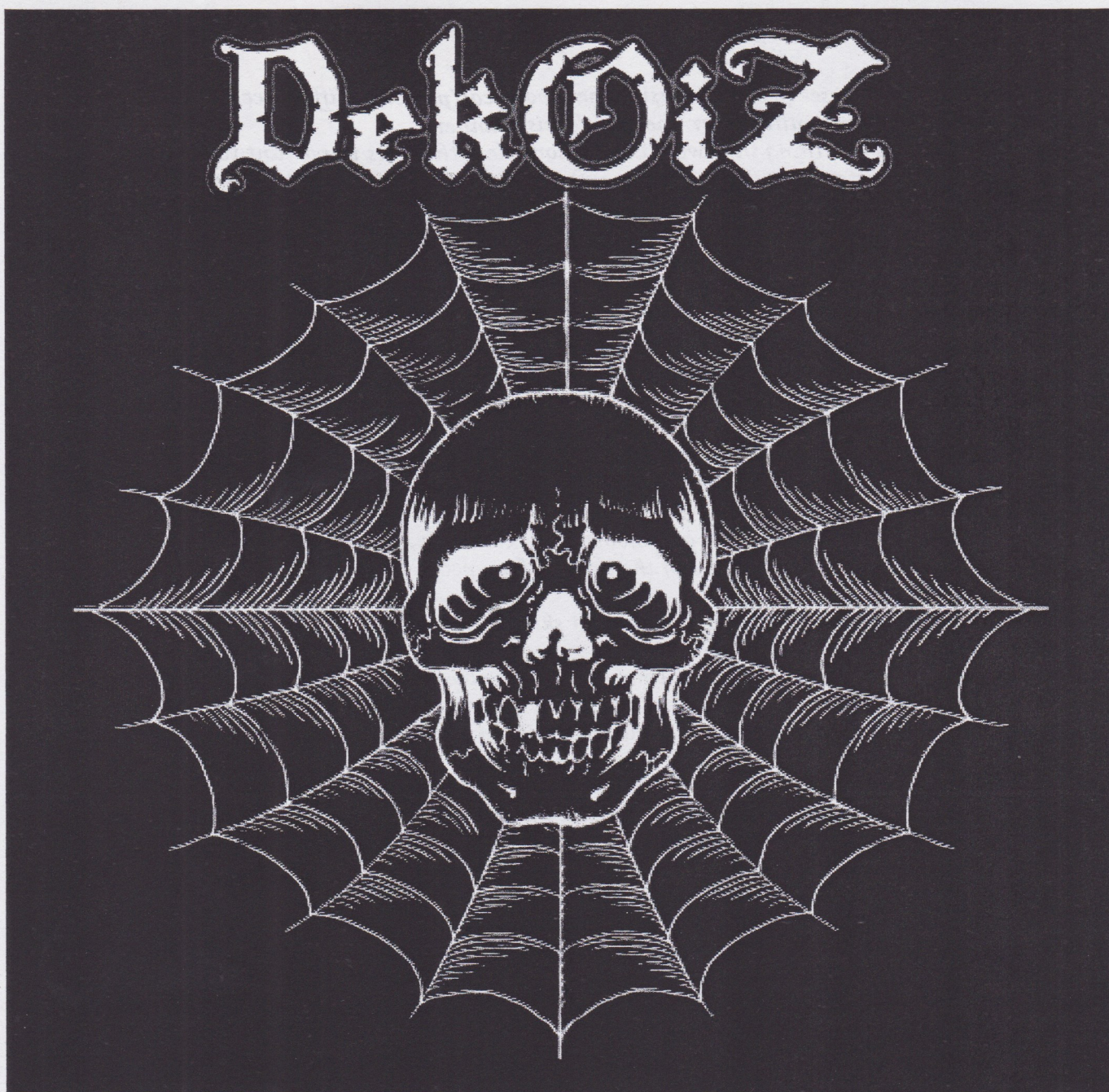
What have the band released to date ? Where are they available from ? And any new releases in the pipeline ?

Have a look at our website , sorry , there's too many ! The last album "New Flag" was released on 'Knockout Records' and is available thru them. After we found a proper line up again we already started on new songs and hope to release a new album at the end of the year.

Any messages ?

For more messages buy a Stage Bottles record and read the lyrics , or come to a gig !!

Cheers to Olaf for the interview , nice one mate !! All the best for future and keep on keepin on !!! Look forward to hearing the new album !!



Over the years the sunny state of California has been responsible for producing some of the best bands around And the Bay area always seems to supply us with its fair share of quality bands.. and one band that's carrying on the tradition and fits the mould is san Francisco's own Dekoiz , a no nonsense , no frills straight to the point 4 piece Oi!/Streetpunk band .. I wanted to find out more about 'em so sent vocalist Konrad a bunch of questions and here's his answers.....

When did the band form and why ? And where'd the name come from ?

I started the Dekoiz in 2002 after leaving my former band. I wanted to form an uncompromising , aggressive , powerful group with a unique style. The name Dekoiz (Decoys) was to reflect something very familiar , but undeniably different...like our music.

Whats the current line up ?

Adam – bass , Bryan – guitar , Danny – drums and Konrad – vocals.

Has it changed much since the band started ?

For the first 2 years the line up was constantly changing. It was difficult to find good , reliable musicians with the right attitude. Fortunatley in 2004 things stabilized enough to start playing more gigs and finally record.

Have any of the band members been in bands before ?

We all have. I've been in bands for about 13 years , Danny about 15 , Bryan and Adam were in several bands prior

to the Dekoiz as well.

What bands would you say influence you musically ?

Besides old Punk and Oi! we listen to practically everything (excluding pop and hip-hop). We're all music junkies addicted to buying CD's and searching for something new (or old). There's no way we could single out only a few bands as our influences.

How would you personally describe your sound ?

Heavy , powerful , in your face street music with lots of tempo changes. We're usually the loudest and most aggressive band at the shows we play at.

Whats the scene like in the Bay area ? What other bands are in your area ?

Very diverse and over saturated. There are too many shows. This results in low turnouts and most people just nodding their heads or occasionally clapping , especially at bars or clubs for 21's and over. Many bands who are used to playing sold out shows on their tours , end up playing to only a handful of people here. It's more like a breeding ground for bands rather than a united and supportive scene.

What do you think of the US scene as a whole ? How do you see it goin in the future ?

In my opinion there is no US scene as a whole. The scene varies from state to state and even city to city. The vast majority of bands never get any exposure because of the lack of zines and good labels. As for California , comparing to the European scene , there's more of a competitive , gang like mentality here. Instead of working together or having a thriving scene , it comes down to what crew or clique you're in. Larger California labels like Epitaph/Hellcat , TKO , BYO , SOS , Fat Wreckords etc.. only represent a tiny fraction of the bands here. Most of their records sound the same – cookie cutter copies of Bad Religion , Rancid , Swingin Utters , Social Distortion and shit like that... Don't expect anything new from them. Many small labels that pop up put out only bands that they're directly associated with – not based on music , therefore they go down pretty quickly. What most people abroad consider as California Oi! or Punk doesn't actually much to do with whats going on here. Fortunatley thanks to the internet , bands don't need to rely on labels to get their music out.



What bands that are out there currently do you like ? Any new bands we should be keepin an eye out for ?

Yeah , the fuckin Dekoiz hahaha.

You've played a lot of shows , with some great bands , has there been a favourite ?

Its always an honour to play with bands that paved the way 20-30 years ago , but we prefer small shows at bars or warehouses where you're on the floor with everyone else. Direct contact without the blinding lights and the security. The big shows are just good for publicity. One of our best shows was with old school Rockabilly bands at a packed club in a small town. The other bands wore sun glasses and played on acoustic guitars. When we started palying , people freaked out and literally ran out of the place holding their ears ! Only the local drunk

stayed , rocking out in the club. We played our entire set keeping the place empty for almost an hour. We got lots of free beer that night but didn't get invited back for some reason !

Who writes the lyrics and where do they get their ideas from ?

I do. They're mainly anti social and anti establishment. Probably most people with a turbulent past and Dedication to the scene can relate to them. You won't find any political agenda's or dietary recommendations.



Have you got a favourite Dekoiz song ?

Usually every new song we write is our favourite at the time. Lyric wise "Never Again" and "My Blood" are my personal favourites so far.

What have you released to date ?

"A Decoy Life" in 2004 with Adrienne Avilez on bass. She was replaced by Adam shortly after , since she wasn't able to play most of our shows because of work. Besides that , you can find us on several compilations.

Have you got any releases in the pipeline ?

We're on a new comp that just came out with The Wretched Ones , The Restarts , The Oppressed , Foreign Legion and many more. Also in June we'll be on another compilation with Total Chaos and other bands , for details on that email nickoi2005@gmail.com. This fall we'll be recording a full length with about 14 new songs , which should be out by the end of the year.

So whats on the agenda for the Dekoiz in the near future ?

Recording the new CD. A European tour for August just fell through because of too many empty dates. If any promoters that have their shit together would like to help us out with a future tour , then please feel free to contact us.

If anyone wants any merchandise where can they get it ?

We're working on a cheap way to have it sold online , but for now just email us through our website www.dekoiz.com

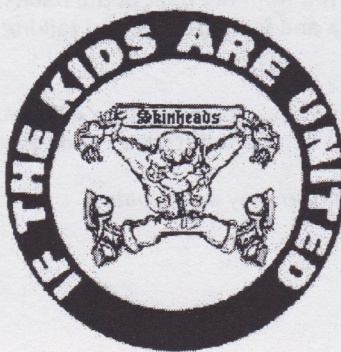
Any messages ?

Bands wanting to tour California or the West Coast can get in touch with us and we'll do our best to help them out.

Top ten of all time ?

Any band that had the guts to do things their own different way while maintaining a street attitude and acknowledging their roots is in our top ten !!

Cheers to Konrad for answering the questions and I can't wait to hear the new CD when it comes out , and fingers crossed that we see..and hear..the Dekoiz in the UK/Europe sometime soon !! Or if I'm lucky I'll catch you when i come over to Cali !!



Over the years Germany has given us some great bands , and one of those I'd include on the list is the BOVVER BOYS , hailing from Aachen which is on the German/Dutch/Belgian border whose debut album "Welcome to Borderland" really caught my ears , so without further ado I contacted the bands drummer Tom..and here's the end product....



When did the Bover Boys form ?

We started the band as a 3 piece outfit in 1992 , a few years later Egger joined on second guitar and at the beginning of the new millenium we added Harti on guitar so that Steve could concentrate on vocals.

What was the original line up ? And whats the current line up ?

The original line up was ; Steve - vocals/guitar , Rainer - bass and Tom - drums. The current line up is Steve - vocals , Rainer - bass , Tom - drums , Egger - guitar and Harti - guitar.

Do you think the current line up sounds better than the original ?

Yes with the current line up we have a wall of sound now and with Steve concentrating on vocals there is more space for stage action.

What made you start a band ? And what bands influenced you when you started ?

At the time we started the band we were sick of the German Oi! scene. A lot of bands these days sound like bad copies of Boehse Onkelz , heavy metal punk with stupid German lyrics. We wanted to play real Oi! and streetpunk like the bands from the UK in the early 80's , that's the stuff we grew up with. There's too many bands that we love from those days but the ones that made the biggest impact on the Bover Boys sound are The Ejected , Sham 69 , Stiff Little Fingers , Last Resort and Angelic Upstarts.

Who writes the lyrics ? Where do they get their ideas from ?

Steve writes all the lyrics and songs , and then later we arrange them and work on them together. The ideas come from daily working class life and the shit that happens around us. Although we do have lyrics that deal with the sunny side of life , like hanging around in pubs and girls !!

Do you play any cover versions ?

Yes there's always a bunch of covers in our live set. At the moment we cover songs of The Undertones , Peter & The Test Tube Babies , 4 Skins , The Ejected , Evil Conduct , The Business , and Rose Tattoo. For example we play a brilliant Ska version of "Drinking n Driving" by The Business , and by our mates from Holland Evil Conduct we cover "No pain , no gain" , in a Social Distortion sounding way.

If you had to pick a favourite Bover Boys song , which would it be and why ?

That's a hard question , one of my faves that we recorded is still "Addicted to Punkrock" , I love the great melody to it. But we're working on some new stuff that is a blast , so stay tuned for that !

Had any of you been in bands before joining the Bover Boys ?

Yes most of us had played in bands before and besides playing in Bover Boys , but the only bands that are worth mentioning are The Pilgrims , one of Germanys first Psychobilly bands in the mid 80's and The Phantom Rockers , a UK/US/German based Psychobilly band that's still going , Harti still plays guitar for them.

How would you describe the Bover Boys sound ?

Our sound could be described as melodic working class singalong punkrock with a strong rock 'n' roll edge.

From the many gig's you've played have you got a favourite ? If so , which one and why ?

We love to play at big festivals , and to meet people and bands there. We played the 'Punk & Disorderly' this year and met a lot of the bands we loved from the past in the backstage area and had chats with them. But we also love playing in pubs and clubs and just drinking and talking with the people that come to our gigs , that's important to us.

You sing in English , why is that ?

We live near the Belgian and Dutch borders , and often play outside of Germany so we sing in English so that people can understand our lyrics , that's important to us. I think English is the international language of Punk rock !

Whats the scene like where you live ? Germany as a whole ?

We have a good Punk scene here in our area , with some good Oi! and Punk bands coming out of Aachen. Check out ADD and our brother band The Urban rejects. In Germany as a whole I think it's very strong at the moment with lots of bands and gig's all around.

How do you see the scene worldwide ? And how do you see it going in the future ?

For the streetmusic scene , we love , besides the old bands from the UK , the new stuff coming from the States , theres a very strong streetmusic scene there with bands like The Generators , Street Dogs , US Bombs , and The Dropkick Murphys. I think these modern bands have their roots deep in early British Punk music and is the sound for the kids of today.

What bands do you currently rate ?

Besides the bands named before , we're also into early Punk and Oi! stuff , but we like various styles of music as well as Punk n Oi! like Ska , Soul , Rockabilly and some Country.

What do you think the best part of being in a band is ?

The best part of being in a band is playing all over and meeting people from all over the world. Although free drinks is another important reason to play in a band !! As for girls and groupies ... we're too old for all that haha !

Whats the band released to date ?

We've released 2 7" EP's on our own and our debut full length CD "Welcome To Borderland" is out on 'Sunny Bastards Records'.

Whats the band got planned for the future ?

We want to record and release some new stuff during early 2006 , and lots of gigs are planned for the year , we hope to make it to the UK soon.

Whats your top ten ?

The 4 Skins - "Plastic gangsters" , The Specials - "Rat Race" , The Jam - "Going Underground" , The Sonics - "Strychnine" , SLF - "Alternative Ulster" , The Clash - " Police & Thieves" , The Kinks - "You Really Got Me" , Small Faces - "What You Gonna Do About It" , Cock Sparrer - "Where Are They Now" and Prince Buster - "Wine & Grind".

Any messages ?

Thanks for the interest in our little punkrock band , we hope to get the chance to play the UK one day. Feel free To check us out at www.myspace.com/bovverboys . Cheers from Germany , Keep On Keeping On !!!!

A big cheers to Tom for the interview and with a bit of luck we'll hopefully be seeing the Bover Boys on these shores sometime in the not too distant future !!!!!!!!!!!!!



BEERZONE

British Streetpunk

BEERZONE are a band that need no introduction at all !! Having been on the scene for around 10 years they've become one of the nations , nay the worlds , best loved street punk bands...so I had to feature 'em in the first issue didn't I ?!!! I caught up with vocalist Iain with a few questions and below you'll find the end result.....

Might as well start at the beginning , when and

why did the band form ?

I started the band up as the local music scene was absolutely dreadful and also the UK punk scene seemed completely dead , it was only ever meant to be from summer 1997 to new years eve 1997 and by our second gig we were offered a record deal which was then followed by the US offers etc...

Whats the current line up ? How does it compare with previous line ups ?

Beerzone are a bit like Chelsea football team at the moment , the only ever present is yours truly , which is handy as i write all the music , if you can call it that , and words. Glen plays all the UK dates , the Duck plays all the US dates and we have been helped along by various other top men including Jimmy Gundog the ex Deadline guy and Dave , the drummer from Argy Bargy.

Iain was in Intensive Care previously , were any of the other members in bands before joining ?

Glen was in Intensive Care too.

Talking of Intensive Care , how do you think they compare to Beerzone or don't you ?

Different era , different time but we had lots of fun in Intensive Care and are still asked to re-form and play festivals.

'Captain Oil' put out a best of and have re-pressed it several times , such a shame there is a talentless bunch of anarcho muppets from North London using the name too , to say they are stupid is the understatement of the century.

Who writes the lyrics ? And where do the ideas come from ?

I write every lyric and the ideas come from when I am out running as I go running most days to de-stress and then the tunes and choruses come into my head when I'm lucky.

You've been around for almost 10 years would you say that your music/attitude has changed in that time ?

Yes I am writing angrier songs and am looking at starting another band to channel this , look out for Dr. & the Martens coming to a club near you soon.

And in that time how do you think the UK scene has changed ? How bout the scene worldwide ?

The UK scene see's more and more bands coming through but very few of them last the pace unfortunatley due to lack of venues , lack of support and losing money hand over fist , it seems to me if you're not American , you can forget it , as the magazines , radio stations and record labels just don't want to know. On the other hand , if you wear punk clothes , spike your hair and come from the USA , you don't have to be able to write decent songs , anything corny goes and you will go a long way.

And theres been some great bands appear on the scene in that time , which are the stand out ones for you (both homegrown and overseas) ?

Deadline were really good in the early days but seem to have lost all direction , Filaments were good and lost all direction too , Foreign Legion keep churning it out against all odds , Scallywags from Eastbourne are good , Red Flag 77 are good. Oversea's , too many to mention.

Would you say that the scene is a lot more positive/united than it used to be and heading in the right direction ?

The scene is as divided as ever , the amount of back stabbing that goes on between bands is nothing short of atrocious , there are good people too but there work is really cut out by the amount of talentless muppets masquerading as bands who hate the fact of any band doing well , it stinks.

You've done loadsa gigs , some almighty tours , and with some great bands , has there been stand out ones that you'll never forget ?

The first tour with The Dropkick Murphys was absolutely amazing , the 8 week US tour with The Business was a real eye opener and our first American headline tour with Runnin Riot was the best fun ever. Also our first headline at the Concorde 2 in Brighton was amazing , as was our gig with The Dead Kennedys in Brighton , add to that our headline appearance at CBGB's and our first ever show at Streetpunk 99 in Kansas City and we have some great memories.

What was it like touring the States ? how does it compare to the UK and Europe ?

Touring the States is absolutely amazing , I would recommend it to anyone , UK is fun but small and Europe is usually really well attended.

You must have a few funny stories to tell of your travels , can you share a couple with us ?

Our guitarist got kidnapped by 2 teenage girls and nearly missed our show with the Dropkick Murphys in Minneapolis , where , where some people drove 12 hours to see us !!! , he arrived an hour after we were meant to play but Blood For Blood played in the early slot to give us a chance , thanks lads !

Our drummer was walking past the stage in San Francisco while The Business were on stage and a girl landed on top of him after being thrown from the stage , he married her and they now have a lovely little daughter !!!
Our bass player met a girl in Seattle after being booted out of a bar on a night off and a girl came over and told him to calm down , he married her and they live in Brighton now !!!!

Can you tell us what your releases are to date ? And if there's any releases in the pipeline ?

Singles – Beer here now ,
Life in the Beerzone ,
Gazza Gazza ,
Heroes of the 3rd round (Split with Argy Bargy) .

Split Album – With The Misguided .

Albums – They came , They Saw , They Conquered (TKO Records) ,
British Streetpunk (Captain Oil Records , re-issue of They came , They saw...with bonus tracks) ,
Strangle all the boybands (Cyclone Records CD) ,
Strangle all the boybands (DSS Records , coloured vinyl) ,
Live on the drive (Beerzone Records) ,
Against the flow (Beer City records CD) ,
Against the flow (Ghetto Rock , coloured vinyl) .

Yes , I am working on new material and we recorded 4 tracks for the Lock Up show on radio 1 recently.

Whats your favourite release to date ? And have you got a favourite Beerzone song ?

'Against the flow' is the best by miles. Favourite song is always a difficult one , sorry , they're all equally shit haha !

What was it like to have the legendary Max Splodge in the band for a night ?

Max is a legend and we all love him to bits , even if he played in a neck brace and could only drum at one speed haha !

If you had to sum up the band with a song which would it be ?

The title track , 'Beerzone' or 'Life on the road' , with the lyrics "Life on the road in a punk rock band , its chaos all the way , life on the road in a punk rock band , its madness but its great" !!!!!

Whats currently in your CD player ?

6 disc in my car has , Anti Heros – 'Underneath the underground' , Lars Fredericksen – 'Viking' , 'Best of The Exploited' , 'Best of The 4 Skins' , Dropkick Murphys – 'Do or die' and the Cd of our 4 songs for radio 1 , as I'm trying to learn the lyrics haha , no joke !!!

Where would you like to see Beerzone go from here ?

I think we have had a pretty good run for our money and as Australia and Japan are on the horizon , it may be time to concentrate on my new project , with Beerzone still playing here and there when asked.

Have you got any tours/gigs in the pipeline ?

Australia , Japan , USA , Finland , Belgium , Greece , UK , Hungary , Denmark etc We are lucky bastards and I know it.

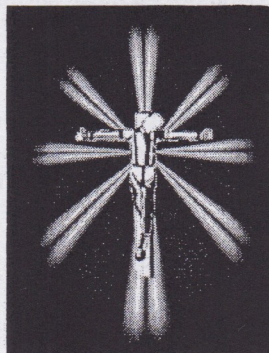
Any merchandise for sale ?

We keep being told we have the best merchandise range of any band in the country , we have flight jackets , hoodies , sweats , long sleeve tees , baseball tops , baseball caps , beanie's , polos , t-shirts , about 10 different girls tops , shorts , patches etc ... check out www.beerzone.net

And finally , any messages ?

Support the UK scene and remember , there are good bands on these shores but we don't have multi million dollar labels to constantly promote us like the US bands.

Big cheers to Jain for the interview , nice one bud ! , good luck with the tours and stuff and I'm looking forward to hearing something by Dr. & The Martens in the not too distant future ... great name by the way !! .. best of luck Jain !



CERVELLI STANKI

Cervelli Stanki are definatley one of the better bands around in Italy at the moment , well around full stop to be honest ! , and with the release of their third CD looming large on the horizon , I decided to send vocalist Ivano some questions to find out more about the band



When and why did the band form ?

We formed in 1993 in Albissola Marina , a bathing centre/ceramics town near Savona in Italy. We decided to form a band to show our anger at the reality of things like noise , middle class tourists , fascist police and heroin. We also have a passion for punk , oi! , reggae , football , beer , girls and a clockwork orange.

What was the original line up ? Whats the current line up ?

The original 1993 line up was Massi - drums , Ivano - vocals , and the brothers Matteo - guitar and Emanuele - bass. In 1997 Matteo and Emanuele were asked to play with Klasse Kriminale and Cervelli Stanki stopped playing until 2000 when Ivano and Massi contacted 2 friends in Albissola , Fabio on bass and Fra on drums , but in 2003 Fra left and was replaced by Alessio , the new line up is Ivano - vocals , Massi - guitar , Fabio - bass and Alex - drums.

Where did you get the name Cervelli Stanki ? And does it mean anything in English ?

Cervelli Stanki was written on a wall in our place , in English it means "Tired Brains" , for us it means anger and intolerance for society and reality.

Where do you get the ideas for your songs ? And who writes the lyrics ?

Most of the songs are written by me , except "Oppressed Boy" , "Identikit" , and "Incompatible" which were written by Massi. The lyrics are inspired by every day things .. trouble at work , exploitation by bosses , fascist police and drugs. But we also write about our passions like alcohol , fun , girls , books/comics , football , films .. on the new album there's even a love song !!

What bands influence your music ?

There are many bands !! , we listen to punk , oi! , reggae , and also dub , rock 'n' roll , hard rock , ska , psychobilly .. all real street music really .. some of our favourite bands are Cock Sparrer , Cockney Rejects , Nabat , Senza Sicura , Motorhead and Klaxon.

How would you describe your music ?

Our new CD is called "Street Rock 'n' Roll" , that's the way we imagine our music to be , a mixture of punk , oi! and rock 'n' roll.

Have you got a favourite Cervelli Stanki song ? If so , which one and why ?

It's impossible for me to choose a favourite song. All the songs are important to me , we let the fans choose which is the best songs of Cervelli Stanki.

Whats the current scene like in Italy ?

In the North of Italy there are a lot of oi! , punk and H/C bands but there are few places to play. The minor bands play in squats but there are a lot of them and not all can play with continuity. Clubs prefer the bands which bring good money and don't really let other bands play. Therefore there is no respect and collaboration between the bands and the organiser of the gigs. In effect the situation doesn't look very good.

Italy has produced some great bands like Klaxon , Nabat , Klasse Kriminale , Reazione .. are there any Italian bands at the moment we should be looking out for ?

We like bands which can be considered historic like Klaxon , Senza Sicura , Stub , Banda Bassotti , Ghetto 84 and Adunata. From the emerging bands we especially like the UGUAGLIANZA , street punk rock from di Varazze , near our village , there are a lot of interesting young bands , for example 4 moors.

What do you think of the current scene in Europe / the World ? How do you see it going in the future ?

Unfortunately because of our jobs we don't have the opportunity to play abroad (only in Switzerland). I don't really know the situation in Europe/World regarding gigs , but thanks to CD's and the internet I know that there are some very good bands out there !! Oi! is all around the world and even in those countries where you'd think it strange to find punks and skins. I love an old Japanese band called Cobra , we recently played in Italy with Mossin Nagant and Freiboiten.



What bands do you listen to at the moment ?

Japanese Cobra , Argentinian Argies , Brazilian Garots Podres , Cortatu Spanish Skacha , French Molody and Berurier Noir , Cock Sparrer , Angelic Upstarts , Cockney Rejects , Major Accident and many more ...

What have you released to date ? Any new releases planned ?

1995 - first demo tape self produced "...e fai a tutti del male".

1997 - first official album "figli della classe operaia" produced by 'Helen of Oi!'.

2003 - CD "la volpe e il cane" produced by 'Anfibio Records'.

In May 2006 we will produce a CD called "live & loud" on 'Sound Of Oi!' and "Street Rock 'n' Roll" on 'Anfibio Records'.

From the gigs you've played is there a favourite ?

During those 13 years theres been good and not so good gigs. Its difficult to say which one is the best. For sure the first one in Albissola Mare in 1994 and the one in Rimini in 1995 with The Anti Nowhere League , and the Sardinian tour are among the best.

Have you got any gigs planned ?

This summer we'll stop because of our jobs. We'll distribute the new album and we'll plan the September tour .. we already Have good propositions in France , Switzerland , Spain , and Hungary.

Any messages Ivano ?

Thanks to Sean and Oi! Warning for this interview , we hope to meet at a gig in England !!! And hi to all the skins , punks , droogies , devotchias , and hooligans in the world of oil.



Well thanks to Ivano for answering the questions , nice one mate !! And good luck with the albums and forthcoming gigs/tour and it'd be great to see you play over here in England sometime .. sooner rather than later !!!! And talking of gigs the band are on the lookout for gigs , in the UK and elsewhere , so if you're a promoter or just someone who can organise a gig for 'em get in touch NOW !!! ... you can contact Christian of 'Anfibio Records' at c.bolzoni@libero.it ... your help will be very much appreciated !!

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GESOCKS

INTERVIEW

Well , Pobel & Gesocks have been around in one form or another since 1980 , as well as being one of Germany's foremost punk bands , Willi the vocalist is quite possibly one of the hardest working geezer's on the scene !! , as you'll discover if you read the interview..which by the way was kindly answered by the bands bassist , Jennes – top bloke !

You started life off as Becks Pistols so why the name change ? And why did you choose Pobel & Gesocks at the new name ?

The Becks beer brewery heard of us and could not handle anything with our music and our lyrics at all. So they prohibited us to use the name any longer , otherwise they threatened the band with legal action. Our chances of winning the criminal case were very small (we used the original logo) , so we preferred to change our name. Now it was time to think about what we would be called in the future ! We started the search by asking our fans to send their band name idea's to Willi's 'Scumfuck-Tradition' fanzine because we were too busy at the time hehe ! The suggestion , which would become most frequently mentioned , should stand from now on . And in this way it came to be that most people voted for Pobel & Gesocks. That was the title of Becks Pistols first LP and a song of the same name on the album is still popular today.

Does Pobel & Gesocks mean anything in English ?

I think it translates as 'Mob & Rabber'.

When did Becks Pistols form and why ? And when did they end and Pobel & Gesocks begin ?

Becks Pistols was formed in 1980. The reasons were the same as they are nowadays when you start a band , you want to get rich and be sexy...okay ! maybe you just want to have fun hehe. In 1983 the band split up because the guitarist died in a tragic accident. In 1988 the band reformed with new members , only Willi was from the original line up. Since then the band has existed without a break. The name change to Pobel & Gesocks happened in 1994.

Whats the current line up of the band ? Have you had many line up changes over the years ?

The line up consists of Willi – vocals , Trevor – guitar , Timo – drums and me , Jennes – bass. Over the years there's been some changes in the line up but the present one has been going for 3 years now.

What bands influenced your music/lyrics when you first started ?

I was not there at that time but Willi told me it was bands like The Sex Pistols (just as the name Becks Pistols suggests) , The Clash , Cockney Rejects , The Anti Nowhere League and so on. All the brilliant stuff that came from England during that time.

Who writes the lyrics and where do they get their ideas from ?

Most lyrics are written by Willi and me. Mostly we write about what we think , what we like to do or would like to do.

When you first started the band what was the scene like in your area ? How about Germany as a whole ?

I can't answer that because I was not there at that time.

And what are they like now ? How do you think they compare ?

I think nowadays everything is a little easier. Here in the Ruhregebiet , where we come from , its possible to go to a punk gig nearly every weekend. You also have the chance to get the latest record releases very easily. I think things are a lot more positive than they were in the early days. And at gigs all through our Federal Republic we meet nice people that show us punk is anything but dead !! And that's the most important fact !

Back when you first started what German bands were about ? And which ones did you like ?

In the early 80's there were a lot of good bands in Germany. Bands like Artless , Male , Hass , ZK and so on. Those bands are still popular with todays generation of punks in Germany. The records from that time are absolute cult classics today ! I enjoy listening to the old and rough stuff of the early days too !!

Howabout nowadays , Germany has a whole host of bands , are there any that you particularly like ? And are there any we should look out for ?

Whats the best thing about being in a band ?

At the moment I like the new album "Punk! Die Raritäten" mostly because I like the collection of songs on it. But I think its quite normal that you like your latest release most. My personal favourite song is "1000 gute grunde" because in the lyrics of this song there is just about everything what to mention when someone asks me why I am what I am. The music is from Johnny Cash's "Man in Black".

At our gigs there are no boneheads. They don't like us because they know we don't agree with their point of view and so our music is not interesting to them and they stay away from our gigs.

For the people that I know and hang around with anti-fascism is a matter of course. We don't talk about that very often. So I don't know what's going on in the anti nazi scene. I don't have any contact with Antifa or similar groups.

Honestly, I don't know. I think the only thing a band can do is to make a clear stand. That is what we do.

There are many places where we really enjoy playing. But there isn't a real favourite. There are just too many nice people in too many different places. The best place is always the place we are playing at the time (now is that diplomatic or what ???).

Our events calendar for this year is already full. Amongst other's we're playing at the 'Oi! The Meeting' festival in Potsdam and the legendary 'Force Attack' festival in the summer. There will also be gigs in Cologne, Essen, Berlin, Wien(Austria), Wolfsburg, and more... You can always look on our homepage for the latest gig news ; pobel-und-gesocks.com .

In my opinion there are some great songs on that album. I think it's a good soundtrack for celebrating the forthcoming world cup !. When talking about soccer , the band doesn't agree !! Willi supports MSV Duisburg , Trevor follows Wuppertaler SV while Timo and me favour Schalke 04. But we don't care and sometimes we even watch soccer altogether without fighting haha !!..In the world cup we hope the German team gets as far as possible of course. But realistically to get past the preliminary round would be a success. As a supporter of the German team you become more modest over the years.

You also have a new CD out on 'Sunny bastards' as well , can you tell us about that ?

That is "Punk!-Die Raritäten". In all those years there were many songs which were only released on samplers or strictly limited vinyl single outputs. So together with the people of 'Sunny Bastards' we made the decision to put all those songs on a CD so that a wider audience/people without a record player can hear them. Furthermore there are a few previously unreleased titles on the CD.

Have you got any releases in the offing ?

At the moment we're working on a new studio album. But it will take a little time before we release it because we all work(almost..) and have families so it's not always easy to get the time to rehearse. But we're working on it , we promise !!!!

As well as being in a band you also run a zine , a mail order and a label .. how are things going ?

Yes , that's Willi's lifestyle . I don't think he can ever complain of being bored ! Apart from being in Pobel & Gesocks he runs the 'Scumfuck' mail order and label , and because that still isn't enough he also runs the 'Raumschiff - Wucherpreis' fanzine , successor of the legendary 'Scumfuck Tradition'. Besides all of that he has a normal job as well , sometimes I think that his clock has got more than 24 hours !!



With doing all that , basically it's a way of life , is that how you see it ?

No doubt about it ! It is a way of life ! Almost every free minute of Willi's life is invested into punk rock !

I also hear you sponsored a kids football team and other things , can you tell us about that ?

That's Willi as well ! He sponsored the teenage team of Duisburg-Hamborn 07 as he made mascots/logos with the 'Scumfuck' logo for them. He didn't do it once but several times !

Whats thr future for Pobel & Gesocks ?

First of all we hope to release a new studio album within the next decade !! Furthermore we hope that it all continues for a long time with all the gigs , beers and all those great parties...that's all we wish for in the future.

Any messages ?

Sorry that some answers may be a little short but my english isn't very good. The last lessons in school seem light years ago !!!! Hope to see you in Great Britain at a gig sometime !

Cheers to Jennes for answering the questions , and to Willi for passing em on !! By the way Jennes

Your English is a damn sight better than my German mate , which amounts to 'Ja' , 'Nein' and 'Holsten Bitte' !!!! best of luck with the gigs and the new album boys , can't wait to hear it !!



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LOS GREENKARDZ

THE HUB CITY STOMPERS

Keeping Ska alive 'n' kicking in New Jersey and the States as a whole , The Hub City Stompers are a band to watch out for on the circuit today .. I sent vocalist Rev a few questions to find out more about 'em ...

When did the band form and why ? And where did the name come from ?

Hub City Stompers formed in the summer of 2002. I formed the band simply because I felt like playing distinct and original Ska despite the apparent demise of the Ska scene after the 'boom' it had experienced in the mid to late 90's. I had been a frontman for NJ Ska band Inspector 7 from 1994 til 2001 when we broke up , I felt like I still had unfinished business as far as performing Ska was concerned. I didn't care that it was no longer the flavour of the decade. I wanted to keep going for the love of the music , not for the popularity of it. I found some like minded people to join the band with me (some of them former Inspector 7 members as well) , and we coined the name 'Hub City Stompers' in reference to the Inspector 7 song of that name as well as our location in New Brunswick , a.k.a 'Hub City' in Jersey.

What was the original line up and whats the line up now ? Have you had many problems with line up changes ?

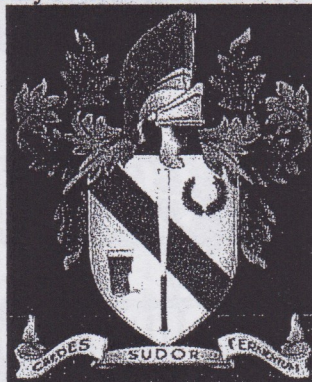
The original line up was Rev Sinister on vocals , Lord Skoochie on tenor sax , Dustin DK on alto and bari sax , Jof on guitar , Adam X on drums , Jon Q on guitar and Beerblade Finnegan on bass. There were minor line up changes in 2003 when Adam X took over from Jon Q on guitar , Green Goblin took over on drums and Green Bay Snacker joined on keyboards. Late 2004 saw more of a major line up change with the departure of Finnegan , DK , Adam X and Skooch , and then the addition of Reggae Bob on bass , Mattie Glock on guitar and Jenny Whiskey on tenor sax. Our only recent line up change has been the departure of Jof in February 2006.

Have any of the band been in bands before joining Hub City Stompers ?

As far as current members are concerned ; I (TD Sinister) used to be frontman for Inspector 7 and I still front the Oi!/HC band Steel Toe Solution , Green Goblin used to drum for the NJ Ska/Punk band Foil and the Reggae band Predator Dub Assassins , the Snacker used to play sax with Tri State Conspiracy , Reggae Bob used to play bass for Predator Dub Assassins , Jenny Whiskey used to play sax for NJ Ska band Bomb Town and Mattie Glock also plays guitar for Bomb town.

Where do you draw your influences from , musically and lyrically ?

Musically we have a strong base influence in 2 Tone Ska such as Bad Manners , Madness and The Specials and early 80's European Ska like The Busters. But we also throw in influences from Reggae , Trad Ska , Punk , Oi! and Hardcore. Lyrically , most of it is just drawn from my twisted and troubled mind.



Who writes most/all of the lyrics ?

I do.

What was the scene like in New Jersey when you formed ? has it changed any since you started ?

The scene in Jersey was definatley in a recession of sorts , as far as Ska was concerned. It was not long after the 'big crash' that followed the mid 'n' late 90's 'Ska boom'. When Inspector 7 broke up in late 2001 , it wasn't more than a few months later that I started searching for people to form a new band. NJ wasn't necessarily devoid of Ska bands , as it was in 1992 when Inspector 7 formed , but Ska definatley wasn't the 'thing' anymore. It has picked up noticeably since then , which can be seen in the attendance at shows as well as the bands coming out.

What do you think of the current US scene ? And how would you like it to go in the future ?

The Ska scene is picking up (seriously , no corny pun intended). The general underground music scene is still pretty strong as well , despite the cycles of mainstream and commercial rape that it tends to suffer every so often. I'd like to see it go back to how it was in the late 80's and early 90's when I was coming up in the scene , in the sense that there wasn't so much musical segregation between all the underground genres of music. The same people that liked Ska liked Oi! , Punk , Hardcore etc.. You'd go to a Gorilla Biscuits show one night and a Bad Manners show the next. The seperation of 'scenes' these days is pretty ridiculous. So much of the music is such watered down crap anyway , There's no need to toot this horn or that.

What bands that are around now do you rate ?

I'm not sure what you mean by 'rate' but if you mean rate positively, theres lots of bands I can mention. To keep the list relatively short I'll limit it to the Ska genre .. Bomb Town , Los Skamales , The Aggrolites , The Bluebeats , Deals Gone Bad , The Pietasters , Warsaw , The Steady Ups .. are just a few of the bands that manage to play tightly , maintain an ORIGINAL sound, and put on great shows. There are plenty more I could list , its very promising.

You've played alongside some great bands (The Toasters , Niblick Henbane , Wretched Ones etc ..) has there been a favourite show ?

Theres no way that I could list one favourite show. Theres been a lot of good ones. As far as touring is concerned , the shows in Texas with Los Skamales have been wicked , and our shows last June in Chicago with Deals Gone Bad and Fear City was off the hook. Locally , the '3 floors of Ska' shows at The Knitting Factory are always amazing , and HCS shows at our local watering hole , The Court tavern , are always a party , where we play with bands like The Wretched Ones , Niblick Henbane , Broken Heroes , The Harletts and Bigger Thomas. Any show with The Pietasters or Murphys Law is pretty much off the chain as well.

Is there any band , past or present , that you would love to share a stage with ?

As far as bands we haven't played with yet , or bands that don't exist anymore , bad Manners , The Templars , Stormwatch , No Redeeming Social Value (All of which I got the opportunity to do with Inspector 7 but not yet with HCS) , Madness , New York Citizens , The Press. Probably many more that don't come to mind right now.

How would you describe the sound of the Hub City Stompers ?

The answer to that would be very similar to the influences question. I'd say we have a hard 2 Tone sound with some Trad Ska , Reggae , Oi! and Hardcore thrown in on occasion.

What has the band released to date ?

We have one song "Night of the living" on the 'Still Standing' Ska compilation put out on Megalith Records in 2003. We have one full length CD "Blood , Sweat & Beers" , released on Megalith Records in 2004. We have a 5 track EP "Mass Appeal" which we released ourselves in 2005. We have one song 'I've got a boot' on the Megalith Records sampler released in January 2006.

Where can people get these from ? Any other merchandise ?

The best way to get any of these things is to order from Megalith Records (all are available through Megalith) , www.megalithrecords.com , "Mass appeal" is also available at www.interpunk.com . We also have pins , stickers , and t-shirts which are currently only available at our live shows.

Have you got any new releases in the pipeline ?

We're planning to record our second full length CD in June 2006 and hopefully release it by the end of the Summer.

What about on the show front ? Whats planned ?

We just got back from a 10 day tour which started at the East Coast Oi! fest in Allentown , PA and then the Ska weekend in Knoxville . TN , and took us through GA , TN , KY , Chicago , and OH. Then we have some welcome home shows in Jersey coming up. June we're taking off to record , and we got some nice shows coming up in July and August. Keep yer ears and eyes open for the Solerunners Scooter Rally in Asbury Park , NJ at the end of August. It's gonna be OFF THE HOOK !

Do you ever get bother with boneheads at shows ? Whats your opinion on organisations like SHARP ?

We've never had a problem with boneheads at shows. Truth be told , I'd never seen a bonehead at any show we'd ever played until this last tour we just did. A bunch of them showed up at the East Coast oi! fest , which was expected since it was held in Allentown , PA (a longtime white supremacist strong - hold). There weren't any problems , but out of the hundreds of skins at that show I counted about 15 WP's there that Friday night. There was also a particularly pathetic white power couple at the Ska weekend in Knoxville , TN the next day. He wore an Ian Stuart shirt and she wore A Bound For Glory shirt .. and they were at a fucking SKA festival ! Plus , they bought merch off our table (I'll gladly take a nazi's money). Unlike the nazi's at the Oi! fest who were older more hardcore types , these 2 appeared to be young , confused kids. They caught some harrassment and humiliation but they didn't get fucked up or anything. Generally though nazi's are a rarity at shows. Aside from the fact that we play Ska which is originally black music , we don't exactly play shows that would be a very welcome enviroment for nazi's. As for SHARP , I think it served a purpose back in the late 80's when white supremacists were running rampant giving the skinhead subculture a bad and inaccurate name. SHARP not only combatted the nazi's but educated people on the true skinhead origins and truth that most skins are not racist. The unfortunate thing about SHARP , though , is that all it really was is a reaction. So once the nazi threat had died down somewhat you had these people saying that SHARP was what being a skinhead was all about , and that was FALSE. Being a skinhead was not about hunting down nazi's any more than it was about hunting down minorities. Being a skinhead was not about being a political activist one way or another. To call yourself a 'nazi skinhead' or a 'SHARP skinhead' is a crock of shit to me either way. A skin is a skin. Some believe this way , some believe that way. But being a racist , a communist , a gay or whatever is not what defines a skin .. so back then you had a lot of SHARP's who were just witch hunting people they thought were nazi's , whether they were or not. And now you have a bunch of apologist , prideless dorks running around with SHARP patches on their jackets just so they can be skins without fear of being tagged as a nazi. Fuck that shit ! If you're a skin , you're goin to get shit , so you better be ready to take it and fight back. Most of these dorks with SHARP patches have never seen a nazi in person , much less fought one hand to hand.

Where would you like to see the band go from here ?

To fucking Europe already ... Or Japan !! Actually , fuck it , maybe we should play Cali first !

Any messages ?

You never know when and where we're going to pop up on the road , so keep your ears and eyes open. Big ups to all the NJ/NYC crew. Big ups to all the skins , punks and everyone else that comes out to the shows and make it a party. Fuck you to all the musical segregationists , especially WITHIN the Ska scene. Respect , memories and R.I.P. to Boppo (Social Decay/8 Ball Crew) and Sob (Merauder/DMS Crew).

Big cheers to Rev for supplying the answers , thanks mate ! And all the best with the upcoming shows and the forthcoming CD , and lets hope that you get over to Europe someday soon !!!!!



FANZINE REVIEWS !!!

GAINES STREET SAINTS #4.

PO BOX 3411 , TALLAHASSEE , FL 32315 - 3411 , USA.

'GSS' is a neat , tidy and compact little zine from sunny Florida !! Issue 4 features interviews with with the likes of Shotgun Solution , Sick Of Society , Suburban Lockdown , and the Hub City Stompers as well as a run down of the Tally rollergirls , a photo review of the Orlando anti racist fest and a write up of an anti nazi demo that took place in Orlando ... Overall it's a great read and well worth sending off for !! I'm not sure of the price but I'm sure \$3/4 will cover it.

If you run a zine , send us a copy and I'll be sure to review it in the next issue cheers !!!!

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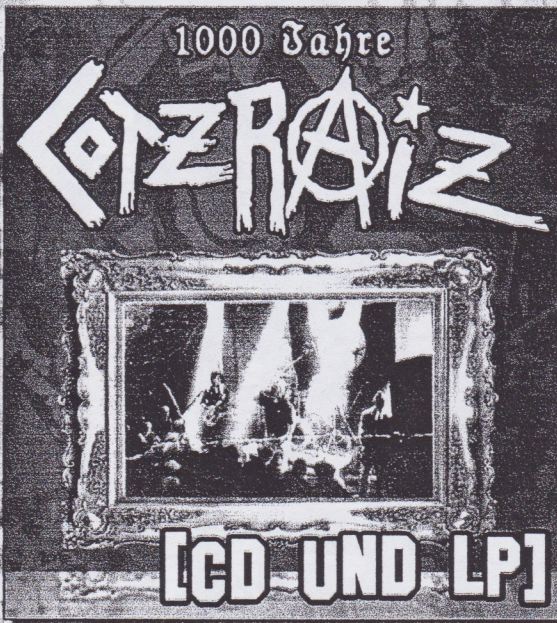
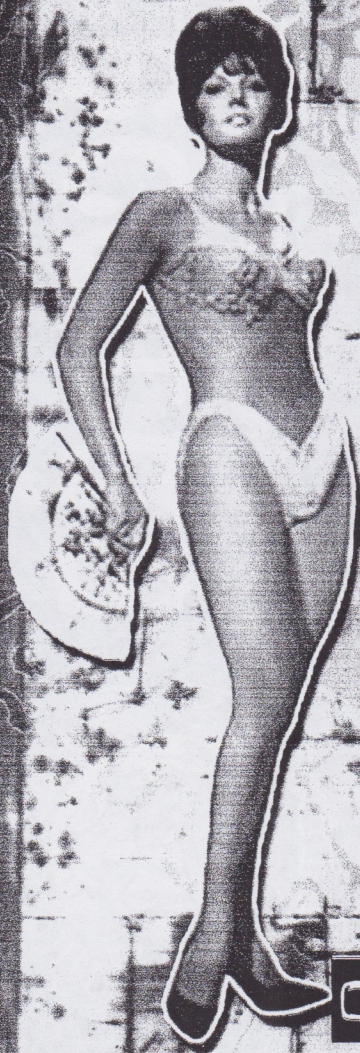
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Ich hatte ideale, einen Traum
von Revolution, ich bin
jetzt aus der Realität geworden
doch von Eifersucht so krank
Was bleibt das ist der Lebensstil
der frucht auf jeden Knack
bis hier hin hat ich schon geschaut
denn fang ich auch als Naure an
POKK...
Versteckte rechte Schokolade,
kocht mich einfach nur nach an
Apollonisch, hier verbrannt
und noch nicht sein kann
Parolen, deutschem, hohle Parolen,
von der crackip-bräunen Masse,
mattlich so nah, genau
wie die Gesellschaft dich ich habe
POKK...

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